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COMMENTARY ON GORBACHEV'S TEST MORATORIUM OFFER

News Conference Cited

LD010841 Moscow TASS in English 0831 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 1 TASS -- A news conference was held for Soviet and foreign correspondents at the press center of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR today. It dealt with a statement made by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on Soviet television and his message to the U.N. secretary-general.

The news conference was given by Georgiy Korniyenko, a first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, Vladimir Petrovskiy, head of the International Organizations Department of the Foreign Ministry of the USSR, and Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the ministry's press department. Opening the meeting with the press, Korniyenko said: The fact that Mikhail Gorbachev's address on Soviet television on March 29 was devoted especially to the issue of ending nuclear tests attests to the tremendous significance attached to it by the Soviet leadership.

That we are concentrating efforts in this area is explained by the following considerations:

The first consideration. The issue of stopping nuclear weapons tests, while being an organic part of the general program for nuclear disarmament which was set forth in Mikhail Gorbachev's statement of January 15, lends itself readily at the same time to independent, and quick, resolution, given, of course, a shared desire to achieve it. What are the grounds for saying this? First, the problem of ending nuclear weapons testing completely is already 75-percent solved: For many years none of the nuclear powers has been conducting nuclear blasts in three mediums, that is on the surface of the earth, in the atmosphere and in outer space. So it only remains to agree not to stage them also in the fourth medium, underground. Second, the question of prohibition of underground nuclear tests has already been the subject of negotiations between the USSR, USA and Britain, and moreover -- the sides have been close to completion of elaboration of a relevant treaty. Over a period of many years various aspects of that question are being worked on also at the multilateral organ -- the Geneva Conference on Disarmament. Third, if earlier difficulties in verification over prohibition of nuclear tests were more far-fetched, than real, they are now simply non-existent: Scientific-technical means of verification became even more perfect, and, if need be, they could be supplemented with international on-site inspections.

Second consideration. With such a measure as prohibition of nuclear tests being seemingly limited, termination of nuclear tests is the most real, the simplest and the most efficient step towards ending the nuclear arms race and, to a major extent, prevention of the arms race in outer space. It is most important now to stop the arms race, to move from the dead centre the process of disarmament, above all nuclear.

It is exactly for that purpose that the Soviet Union decided to take a unilateral daring step, as a good example: It stopped any nuclear explosions as of August 6 last year -- both in military and peaceful purposes. The initial deadline of that moratorium, January 1, this year, was later extended till March 31.

And then a new constructive step was made on the part of the Soviet Union. As was announced in Mikhail Gorbachev's reply to the leaders of six states and reaffirmed in his March 29 television appearance, the Soviet Union will not conduct nuclear explosions also after the expiration of March 31 -- the extended date of the unilateral moratorium, as long as the United States does not hold such tests. Otherwise, the Soviet Union will resume nuclear tests. This, as was emphasised by Mikhail Gorbachev, should be absolutely clear. The USSR cannot waive its own security and the security ot its allies.

But that would not be our choice -- all our thoughts and efforts are directed exactly at preventing such a turn of affairs. To have an accord on ending nuclear tests, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee is ready to meet at an early date the U.S. President at one of the European capitals.

Mikhail Gorbachev's March 28 Message to U.N. Secretary General Perez de Cuellar on the occasion of the International Year of Peace, is also permeated with the care to ensure a turn to the better in international affairs, to strengthen peace.

The Soviet Union is known to have been the first to respond to the declaration, which proclaimed 1986 as the International Year of Peace, and which was adopted by the U.N. General Assembly in October last year. In the USSR that U.N. decision was received as an extra political stimulus for the quest for large-scale and effective measures to remove the nuclear threat.

A package of exactly such measures of fundamental significance was set forth in the January 15 statement of the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and then reaffirmed and developed in the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th CPSU Congress. The fundamental basic principles of a comprehensive system of international security, put forth at the congress, harmoniously accord with the aims and the tasks of the International Year of Peace, just as with the U.N. Charter.

Answers have been given to numerous questions put by journalist.

More Korniyenko Remarks

LD011017 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0940 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr (TASS) -- Georgiy Korniyenko, first deputy foreign minister of the USSR, answering a question on the USSR's reaction to the White House proposal that Soviet experts be sent to observe the nuclear blast in the State of Nevada planned for the middle of April said: We have put forward a proposal to the U.S. Government that experts from the two countries meet at any time and in any place to discuss matters relating to monitoring the halting of nuclear blasts. Our position is unambiguous Traveling and observing how nuclear blasts are carried out would mean to all intents and purposes legalizing blasts. Let the Americans look elsewhere for companions wanting to take part in such a legalization. We shall not take part in this. Georgiy Korniyenko was speaking at a news conference at the Press Center of the USSR Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Asked whether the extension of the moratorium by the USSR is possible if the United States carries out a new nuclear test, he stressed that it would no longer be in force. The USSR has already warned that it will not be able to extend the moratorium endlessly. The USSR will refrain from carrying out nuclear tests only until the first nuclear explosion in the United States.

We would not like to think that President Reagan has uttered his final word on a special meeting on the issue of halting nuclear weapons tests. By proposing a meeting in the very near future in one of the European capitals to discuss this question, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, did not mean that this meeting would replace the one arranged in Geneva and which must take the form of a visit by him to the United States. This issue remains on the agenda.

U.S. actions over the past few months represent a departure from "the spirit of Geneva," said Georgiy Korniyenko. As for the USSR we shall continue our efforts to improve the situation and achieve a turn for the better. The USSR, he noted, is particularly negatively inclined when this or that country, whether it be the FRG or Israel, joins in U.S. plans to create a so-called "space shield." The FRG's participation in the SDI program cannot fail to have an effect on the state of USSR-FRG relations too. The first deputy USSR minister of foreign affairs condemned Washington's intention to supply the most up-to-date types of weapons to counterrevolutionary gangs in Afghanistan and Angola.

U.S. Rejection Scored

PM311907 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[Vitaliy Korionov "Observer's Opinion" under the general headline: "Take the Sensible Step!"]

[Text] The reports currently arriving in an unbroken stream from all ends of the earth testify to the fact that the planet is witnessing what is essentially a universal referendum on today's most acute issue for mankind: Will the opportunities still available for finally halting the dangerous nuclear arms race be utilized? The cessation of nuclear tests primarily by the Soviet Union and the United States must be the chief and urgent step to be taken along the path toward this goal.

The new Soviet initiative has stirred the world and has been a powerful boost for all those who want to safeguard the earth against a nuclear conflagration. The position of the USSR, which is continuing to adhere to its unilaterally imposed moratorium, is viewed everywhere as an initiative of outstanding political signficance.

As for the United States, everyone can see that the U.S. Administration has been given yet another chance to back up with actions its declarative statements of its desire for the reduction of nuclear armaments. This chance should not be missed -- such is the resolute demand which is growing hourly everywhere, the United States included. The governments of peace-loving states, the broadest strata of the international public, political parties, public organizations and movements, parliaments, church representatives, and people espousing the most diverse political views are all demanding: Enough empty promises, it is time for immediate and vigorous actions!

What is more, the U.S. Administration is acting, but only in the opposite direction: A new nuclear explosion is being prepared at the Nevada test range. It is not enough that Washington has hastily rejected the new Soviet peace initiative. The White House is declaring over and over that it is still expecting "Soviet specialists to observe the U.S. nuclear test to be held mid-April." What is this if not cynical mockery of the hopes of the peoples who are insisting on Washington's cessation of nuclear tests!

The constructive Soviet proposal is receiving increasingly broad international support. Millions and millions of people are yet again being convinced in fact that the USSR acts with an understanding of its responsibility to mankind. If the planet continues to be shaken by nuclear explosions, the responsibility for this will rest wholly and completely with the Washington administration. And with it alone!

Levin Assails Reagan Remarks

LD312003 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1645 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Beyond U.S. borders, Soviet proposals for a halt to nuclear tests have been received even more warmly. Washington's negative response to them has evoked indignation. The U.S. argument is seen as a defiance of common sense. In a dispatch from Washington a DPA correspondent analyzes the U.S. Administration's position on the issue, summing up: the United States sees the Soviet proposal as, just listen, a propaganda ploy. Here is my colleague Viktor Levin:

[Levin] I will begin with a quotation: Militarist states see unilateral concessions as a sign of weakness and not good intentions. To my mind this description wholly covers the American position in relation to the moratorium on nuclear explosions introduced unilaterally by the Soviet Union. What we did was to take a good-will step and for 8 months now we have not carried out any nuclear explosions although the United States stubbornly continues with its tests. As confirmed in Comrade Gorbachev's television address, we even now call on the United States to display a sense of responsibility and follow our example. The reply to this is negative.

This seems the right moment to return to the quotation I gave. I repeat it: Militaristic states see unilateral concessions as a sign of weakness and not good intentions. And whatever anyone might say as far as official Washington is concerned, the quotation hits the nail on the head. And do you know who is being quoted? I will not keep you in suspense any longer: These words were spoken by U.S. President Ronald Reagan. In his usual way, he intended to brand someone else but the way it turned out, his high-flown rhetoric disregards facts and rebounds directly on the very policies being pursued by the present American Administration.

As already noted, Washington hastened to call the new Soviet proposal -- which opens up a real way to the total halting of nuclear weapons testing -- a propaganda ploy. But just a moment; the fact that we have done so unilaterally and to the prejudice -- and there can be no two ways about this -- of our own security, given that the United States is continuing such explosions, can this fact really be a propaganda ploy? Our proposal for a Soviet-U.S. summit meeting to be held in the near future to take the first major step toward stopping the nuclear arms race and reach agreement on halting nuclear tests -- is this also a propaganda ploy? If so, then it is to ask what Washington would call responsibility for the fate of the world and political will to solve the burning problems confronting mankind.

The DPA dispatch notes that, despite wide-ranging protests from world opinion the United States has carried out not only its 22d March defiant nuclear explosion but is preparing for another test in the 3d week of April, one which is an integral part of the work to develop strike weapons in space. There are rumors, the West German journalist notes, that yet another test may be carried out in the first half of April. So are these explosions to be regarded as a constructive contribution by Washington to the cause of ridding mankind of the threat of nuclear war?

The Soviet Union has made an honest and realistic proposal dictated by a feeling of utmost responsibility and by a desire to see a ban on nuclear explosions become a fact, an immutable norm of interstate relations. Washington's position, as it appears today, shows that the U.S. Administration is not ready for such constructive steps. Recalling Reagan's words once more, it remains to be said that it is the United States which acts like the militarist state about which the head of the U.S. Administration spoke.

Kornilov Urges Test Ban

LD312116 Moscow TASS in English 1727 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Yuriy Kornilov writes: "It is not yet late to halt the nuclear arms race. The first major stride in that direction is needed. Putting an end to nuclear testing by all, above all by the Soviet Union and the United States, as well as by the other nuclear powers, could become such a step. We attach tremendous significance to the solution of this task which concerns the destiny of all peoples", Mikhail Gorbachev said in his speech over the Soviet television on March 29. The world press emphasizes that this is another vivid confirmation of the Soviet Union's consistent foreign policy course aimed at removing the danger of nuclear holocaust.

A good example set by the Soviet Union, which unilaterally announced a moratorium on all nuclear explosions eight months ago, on the day of the 40th anniversary of the tragedy of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and urged the USA and other nuclear powers to follow suit has evoked approval all over the world.

And this is natural. One need not be an expert in the military sphere to realize that not to conduct testing means to put an end to the refining of nuclear weapons, to start practical advance to their complete elimination everywhere. The Soviet Union views an end to testing as part and parcel of the Soviet Union's large-scale peace programme, the implementation of which would enable humanity to enter the 21st century being rid of the threat of nuclear catastrophe.

We view an end to testing as a most important element of setting up a comprehensive system of international security, the foundations of which have been formulated by the 27th CPSU Congress.

It would seem that Washington should support the Soviet Union's initiative and meet the expectations of the peoples, for President of the United States Reagan, less than six months ago, put his signature in Geneva to the joint Soviet-U.S. statement which clearly declared that a nuclear war is inadmissible and that the sides will not be striving for nuclear superiority. But what was Washington's real answer? At first silence and then awkward manoeuvres aimed at avoiding the discussion of the essence of the matter while a number of tests of nuclear devices were conducted in Nevada.

After non-aligned countries, other peaceful nations started declaring for an end to nuclear testing ever more resolutely, and the USSR, having extended its moratorium till March 31, declared that it will not conduct tests even after the expiry of that deadline, till the USA conducts a nuclear explosion. Another nuclear explosion, the eighth one in the past eight months was set off at the test site in Nevada. What is this if not an ostentatious and brazen challenge to the Soviet Union, to all peoples? This is an act of defiance that evoked stormy indignation all over the world.

Trying to camouflage the militaristic essence of its policy, Washington is launching these days ever more propaganda fireworks aimed at misleading the public. It is asserted, for instance, that the USA, allegedly "lags behind" the USSR and needs nuclear explosions to ensure its own security. But this is a lie and to refute it it is enough to quote the information of such a prestigious organization as the Swedish Institute of Defence Studies. Its information indicates that the number of nuclear devices the USA has tested since 1945 exceeds by third that tested by the USSR. And a number of nuclear tests conducted by the USA and other western powers is 50 per cent greater than the number of tests by the USSR. Furthermore, Washington asserts that to end testing is impossible because of "difficulties of verification". This is also a lie which has been refuted more than once by prominent western politicians, scientists and military experts.

The U.S. ruling circles placed self-seeking interests of the military-industrial circles above the interests of entire humanity and their own people. Ignoring the will of the international public, flouting the United Nations Charter, going back on its own obligations assumed during the Soviet-U.S. summit meeting, Washington continues banking on the militaristic course, on force, and is asserting that it is precisely in this way that the United States can "influence" the USSR's policy. These are futile calculations. Time and the course of events show if the U.S. ruling circles will be able to realize soberly the realities of the present and abandon the hegemonistic philosophy and militaristic doctrines dashed by life itself. As for the Soviet Union, it remains loyal to the policy of peace and continues declaring vigorously for the removal of war threat.

FURTHER COMMENTARY ON LATEST U.S. NUCLEAR TEST

Test Provokes 'Outrage'

PM291729 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 25 Mar 86 Second Edition p 3

["TASS Commentary for KRASNAYA ZVEZDA" by military observer V. Chernyshev: "Contrary to the Will of Millions"]

[Text] A shock wave of outrage and anger has spread throughout the world. Its epicenter was the American test range in Nevada, where the United States, despite everything, carried out a new explosion of a nuclear device. This test, code-named "Glencove," is Washington's crude and ostentatious response to the act of good will on the part of the USSR in stating that it would not carry out nuclear explosions even after the expiry of its unilateral moratorium on 31 March this year, that is to say, not before the first nuclear explosion in the United States. The American Administration thus ignored the call to stop nuclear tests, although people throughout the world realize the urgency for this important measure, which would improve the international atmosphere and constitute a major step toward eliminating nuclear arms.

In continuing its nuclear explosions the U.S. Administration is increasingly opposing itself to the clearly expressed will of the majority of states in the world and the demands of the broadest strata of the world public and ignoring the warnings coming from many influential U.S. politicians and public figures and members of the American Congress. Such actions show up the true worth of the American Administration's hypocritical statements about Washington's alleged desire to make nuclear arms "impotent and obsolete" and to reduce and scrap them. The following legitimate question also arises: Can the testing [otrabotka] of more and newer nuclear means in the United States really accord with the recognition of the inadmissibility of nuclear war and of attempts to gain military superiority enshrined in the joint Soviet-American statement at the Geneva summit meeting?

According to a report in THE WALL STREET JOURNAL, preparation is in full swing in Nevada for the the testing of an X-ray laser pumped by a nuclear explosion scheduled for April.

The testing [otrabotka] of a laser weapon for the purpose of ABM defense and for its use in outer space must cause serious concern in the world. First, it is a direct breach of the Soviet-American ABM Treaty, which forbids testing for the purposes of ABM defense anywhere except at the previously announced and established test ranges (in the case of the United States, White Sands in New Mexico and Kwajalein Atoll in the Pacific). Second, the creation [sozdaniye] of such devices for nuclear explosions in outer space is a practical measure whose implementation in the future may lead to breach of the provisions of other important documents -- the SALT II treaty and the 1967 treaty on outer space.

The testing [otrabotka] of a nuclear-pumped X-ray laser once again refutes the myth about the "nonnuclear" nature of SDI spread by Washington officialdom. In this regard it is appropriate to recall a number of other facts which clearly indicate the preparation of nuclear weapons for "star wars" in the United States.

In 1983 the "Fletcher Commission," in a report to the U.S. National Security Council, recommended that $895 million be invested by 1989 in developing [razrabotka] nuclear-pumped X-ray lasers. In February 1985 the U.S. Secretary of Defense and Secretary of Energy signed a joint document whereby their departments are to engage in energetic work to create [sozdat] new types of nuclear weapons for "star wars." Directive No 172, signed by the U.S. President in May 1985, officially states that nuclear weapons may be an element of SDI. In the middle of last year R. Wagner, assistant to the secretary of defense for atomic energy, testified to Congress that plans to use nuclear weapons in a large-scale ABM system with space-based elements were at the "focus of attention" in the Pentagon. In accordance with the White House's request for the next fiscal year, appropriations for research [issledovaniye] and development [razrabotka] in the sphere of nuclear armaments under the SDI program are doubling. It is intended to appropriate at least $250 million for nuclear tests for "star wars" in Nevada.

It is now no longer a question of work of a "scientific research nature" being carried out by the Pentagon in the SDI sphere, the American newspaper CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR writes, but of practical tests of new kinds of weapons. The creation [sozdaniye] of nuclear armaments for outer space is causing alarm in the world, including in the countries of U.S. allies. French President F. Mitterrand expressed this alarm as follows: "The transfer of nuclear arms into outer space will mean not just the end of the 1972 treaty on ABM systems but the beginning of a new spiral in the arms race and advancement toward other forms of arms whose nature I am not even able to specify at this moment."

Washington's insolent action has caused anger and outrage among all progressive mankind. People of good will are insistently demanding a ban on all nuclear tests.

'Challenge' to Arms Opponents

AU271603 Vienna WIENER ZEITUNG in German 27 Mar 86 p 3

[Commentary by Spartak Beglov of NOVOSTI; paper's headline: "From the Soviet Viewpoint: After the Nevada Test"]

[Text] The subterranean nuclear test carried out as scheduled by the Americans on 22 March in Nevada was assessed quite unequivocally in Moscow, as in most capitals of the world. It is an open challenge to the opponents of the arms race throughout the world; "a 150-kiloton blow to the hopes of the peoples."

It would seem, though, that the term "as scheduled" is out of place here. Reports from the United States indicate that the U.S. Administration has altered the schedule of the nuclear explosions, and has moved up the date of the test, originally slated for April, to March.

Primarily there are two explanations for this unusual hurry. First, the six signatory states of the Delhi declaration 1 week before the Nevada explosion received an unmistakable signal from the USSR, indicating its readiness not to carry out any nuclear explosions even beyond 31 March, at least until the next summit meeting, should the Americans consent to do the same. Thus Washington was confronted with the unanimous opinion of seven states with a total of 1 billion inhabitants, and decided to resort to preemptive action. The world was to be presented with a fait accompli, before the demand for discontinuation of the tests had become a chain reaction that could no longer be stopped, neither abroad nor in the United States itself.

Second, the U.S. Administration had suffered a severe defeat in Congress 48 hours before the Nevada test: The House of Representatives refused to approve a $100 million grant for military aid to the "contras" in Nicaragua. It is amply known how Reagan reacts in cases like that: Whenever his policy of strength suffers a setback somewhere, he immediately attempts to boost his prestige again by an ostentatious demonstration of strength in some other place. This was practiced in October 1983 when the White House -- after the debacle in Lebanon, where nearly 250 GI's were killed in Beirut -- launched the invasion against tiny Grenada, so as to present it as the "greatest victory of American weapons."

The new nuclear explosion in Nevada, where a weapon for "star wars" was tested, has still further undermined the confidence in the United States as a potential disarmament partner. When Ronald Reagan and Mikhail Gorbachev during the Geneva summit meeting last November agreed on the need to accelerate progress toward nuclear disarmament, it seemed -- at least verbally -- as if the U.S. President wanted to comply with the hopes of American and international public opinion. But these were only words. The deeds of the administration amount to the opposite, and are obviously dictated by the interests of the military-industrial complex and the ultraconservative circles of the United States.

Thus, with whom is the Soviet Union dealing in the dialogue with the United States? With the America that is genuinely interested in halting the arms race and in constructively collaborating with the USSR in implementing the plan for nuclear disarmament, outlined at the 27th CPSU Congress, or with a militarist group which arrogantly rejects all reasonable arguments for preventing the arms race in space and for halting it on earth that were agreed on at the Geneva summit meeting?

These are questions which invariably arise in view of the new Soviet-American summit meeting planned for this year.

SHABANOV OUTLINES SOVIET VERIFICATION POLICY

PM270936 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 24 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Article by Army General V. Shabanov, USSR deputy defense minister: "A Most Important Element in the Disarmament Process" -- uppercase passages published in boldface]

[Text] The solution of the problem of verification [kontrol] is of fundamental importance in the program for the elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons put forward in the statement by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on 15 January this year.

Comprehensive and most stringent monitoring [proverka] of the fulfillment of possible future agreements is a most important element in the disarmament process proposed by the Soviet Union.

Quite often Western propaganda has vociferously spread the myth of the impossibility of agreeing with the USSR on effective verification [kontrol] measures and attempted to distort the Soviet position on this question. Whatever sphere of arms limitation and reduction you take -- be it nuclear or conventional arms, nuclear tests, or preventing the spread of the arms race to space -- everywhere the Americans have hidden behind the "problem of verification [kontrol]" that they themselves have invented: The Russians do not agree to verification [kontrol], they say, so there is nothing to talk about. These actions are based by no means on a sincere U.S. interest in successfully resolving the questions of limiting the arms race but on other, frankly unsavory aims -- torpedoing agreements that are under preparation or have already been signed.

This stalling tactic was used by Washington when, for instance, discussing the question of the ratification of the treaties limiting underground nuclear weapons tests (1974) and on underground nuclear explosions for peaceful purposes (1976). It has been used by the United States to wreck ratification of the SALT II Treaty, to hamper talks on banning chemical weapons, to avoid the moratorium proposed by the USSR on all nuclear explosions, and to block any Soviet peace initiatives in limiting the arms race.

The Soviet Union's statements on questions of verification [kontrol] exposing Washington's long-standing political speculation on this problem and calling for a new boost to be given to arms limitation talks seem all the more important to the entire world. Now certain circles in the West are trying to hush up the Soviet initiative and pretend that nothing has happened. And that is no accident because, as the saying goes, they have had the ground cut from under their feet and their possible objections to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives have been removed in advance.

In what respects are the Soviet proposals in this sphere new and constructive? Why is any unbiased observer today saying that the USSR's bold steps have put a stop to the use of the verification [kontrol] problem to hinder Soviet-U.S. talks?

The essence is that the USSR has clearly stated that it is prepared to embark on any sensible verification [kontrol] measures if they really promote the limitation of the arms race. Verification [kontrol], as an element in interstate relations, objectively serves the sides' security interests. But verification [kontrol] is not an end in itself. Its main task is to ensure the solution of the problem of ending the arms race. As the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th Congress stressed, "disarmament without verification [kontrol] is impossible, but verification [kontrol] without disarmament is senseless." Hence the need for the amount and methods of verification [kontrol] to accord with the nature and scope of specific accords.

The experience of monitoring [proverka] the execution of existing strategic arms accords and other previously concluded treaties and agreements in the arms limitation sphere confirms the indisputable priority of national technical means of verification [kontrol]. The potential of these means is constantly increasing. At the same time the Soviet Union is flexible on this question. If necessary it is prepared for additional measures to be drawn up and adopted to promote the effectiveness of verification [kontrol] using national technical means. This refers first and foremsot to various types of notification and exchanges of quantitative information on arms. Other additional verification [kontrol] measures may be adopted up to and including on-site inspection [inspektsiya]. The only important thing is that these measures shold not serve as a tool for interfering in states' internal affairs and should not damage either side.

The USSR's position on verification [kontrol] is a realistic embodiment of the Soviet concept of creating a comprehensive international security sytem envisaging a strictly verifiable [kontroliruyemyy] reduction in the levels of states' military potentials to limits of sensible sufficiency. Specifically, it is a question of all avenues of arms limitation and reduction. Our ideal is a world with no weapons and no wars.

IN THE SPHERE OF IMPLEMENTING THE PROGRAM FOR THE ELIMINATION OF NUCLEARWEAPONS it is planned to develop special procedures for destroying nuclear munitions and for dismantling, reequipping, or destroying nuclear weapons delivery vehicles. Both the numbers of weapons to be eliminated would be agreed; verification [kontrol] of the arms being destroyed and restricted would be carried out by national technical means and through on-site inspections [inspektsiya]. Any other additional measures are possible.

Taking into account the fact that the USSR and the United States are experienced in developing procedures and practical actions for destroying nuclear means, the USSR sees no insuperable obstacle in the way of solving the problem of verifying [kontrol] the destruction of nuclear weapons and is prepared to agree to the most radical solutions of this problem on, of course, a mutual and equal basis.

IN THE SPHERE OF ENDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS TESTS the USSR has proposed a solution to the question of verification [kontrol] which satisfies the most carping U.S. skeptics. It is well known that for many years Washington has ignored the fact that the sides' existing national technical means make it possible to verify [kontrolirovat] nuclear explosions with high accuracy and reliability. And in this respct the United States is geographically more favorably situated than the USSR. However, without checking it in practice, the U.S. side rejected the verification [kontrol] system envisaged by the 1974 treaty on underground nuclear explosions, the geology of test sites, and other measures.

For a long time Washington, hiding behind a "verification [kontrol] problem" which it had artifically created, refused to join the Soviet moratorium on all nuclear explosions. Now the USSR has stripped away that mask of hypocrisy. It has been directly stated in this regard: "Verification [kontrol] is no problem for us. If the United States ends all nuclear explosions on a reciprocal basis, the proper verification [kontrol] will be entirely ensured by national technical means, with the help of international procedures, and, if necessary, with on-site inspection [inspektsiya]." The Soviet Union has expressed readiness to make use of the well-known proposal from the leaders of the six states -- if acceptable to the other side too -- to provide assistance in monitoring [proverka] the end of the nuclear tests, including on-site inspection [inspektsiya]. Even the conservative British newspaper THE TIMES was forced to admit that, "The USSR's readiness to ensure on-site inspection [inspektsiya] has placed the United States and Britain in an extremely complicated position."

Needless to say, in order to fully solve the problem of nuclear tests a treaty is necessary which would prohibit nuclear weapons tests universally and forever. The USSR proposes drawing up such a treaty and resuming or starting relevant talks. From the very outset the resolution of these questions could be handled in parallel in order to reach a comprehensive agreement as quickly as possible.

IN THE SPHERE OF BANNING SPACE STRIKE ARMS the Soviet Union's principled position is well known. It consists in the renunciation by two sides -- the USSR and the United States -- of the creation, [sozdaniye] (including scientific research work), testing, and deployment of space strike arms.

Naturally, given Washington's consent, this decision would have to be verified [kontrolirovatsya] in a guaranteed way. The USSR favors the strictest verification [kontrol], including opening up the relevant laboratories to inspections [inspektsiya] on a reciprocal basis.

This step by the USSR demolishes the arguments of the supporters of the U.S. "star wars" program about the impossibility of verifying [prokontrolirovat] the ban on the creation [sozdaniye] of space strike means. The question can now be put this way: Either nuclear weapons are scrapped, strike arms in space are prevented, and the threat of war in general is eased -- with all these measures carried out under strict national and international verification [kontrol] -- or space strike means are deployed and there is an unchecked arms race in all avenues, an exacerbation of international tension as a consequence, and a growth in the threat to peace.

IN THE SPHERE OF BANNING AND TOTALLY ELIMINATING THE ACCUMULATION OF STOCKPILES OF CHEMICAL WEAPONS the USSR advocates the strictest and most reliable verification [kontrol] both of the elimination of chemical weapons and of the industrial base for their manufacture. Specifically we propose announcing in good time the location of enterprises producing chemical weapons and ending their production, starting to work out procedures for destroying the corresponding production base, and embarking on eliminating chemical weapons stockpiles soon after a convention comes into force.

At sites where the destruction of chemical weapons stockpiles is to take place it is planned to ensure stringent verification [kontrol] from the start of the destruction process to its completion by having international inspectors [inspektsiya] constantly in attendance or by combining systematic international inspections [proverka] with the use of measuring devices at these sites.

Similar verification [kontrol] is also planned at the site where permitted quantities of the banned chemicals will be produced for scientific, agricultural, medicinal, and other nonmilitary needs. International inspectors are planned to be in virtually constant attendance there.

An extensive choice of verification [kontrol] measures -- from the use of national technical means and the exchange of data to systematic and constant international inspections [inspektsiya], including monitoring [proverka] upon request -- is planned for all other types of activity under a future convention.

Thus, the USSR is prepared in practice for any verification [kontrol] measures that guarantee the security of the states participating in the destruction of chemical arsenals. Even the most carping opponent of the destruction of chemical weapons has been deprived of "agruments" aimed against the Soviet proposal.

THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES ARE PROPOSING EFFECTIVE VERIFICATION [KONTROL] MEASURES LINKED WITH REDUCING AND FREEZING TROOPS AND ARMS IN CENTRAL EUROPE. These measures include an exchange of lists (rosters) of the Soviet and U.S. military units subject to reduction and withdrawal from the central European region indicating their actual designation, size, location, and the number of main types of arms held; reciprocal notification of the start and completion of practical measures to reduce Soviet and U.S. troops; and exchange on a reciprocal basis of figures on armed forces in the reduction region in terms of the parameters previously applied at the talks; reciprocal notification about all ground forces movements, the calling up of reservists, and military exercises by ground forces involving over 20,000 men; the holding of on-site inspections [proverka] following a justifiable request; the creation of an advisory committee; and the holding of bilateral or multilateral consultations between the interested parties.

In addition to the above measures the USSR also advocates the establishment of permanent centers for monitoring [kontrol] entry and exit to and from the reduction region of military contingents. In our opinion this would make it possible to reliably verify [kontrolirovat] the numbers of armed forces in the zone covered by the agreement on freezing troop numbers.

Thus, the initiatives put forward by the Soviet Union on verification [kontrol] measures are aimed at promoting the intensification of the talks that are under way and the removal of the artificial obstacles put in the way of the talks by the United States. Our proposals in this sphere graphically demonstrate the USSR's readiness for far-reaching verification [kontrol] measures aimed at getting the existing system of talks moving and ensuring the optimum effectiveness of the disarmament machinery. In submitting these proposals our country proceeds on the basis that each arms limitation and reduction measure and each step along the road of reducing the threat of war must bring the peoples greater security and confidence in the future, yet not to the detriment or at the expense of other states but by strengthening mutual security.

MORE COMMENTS ON U.S.-FRG SDI AGREEMENT

'Dressed in Peaceful Clothing'

OW311112 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1500 GMT 27 Mar 86

[From the "Novosti" newscast; commentary by Boris Parkhomenko]

[Text] It has been officially announced in Bonn that the FRG is ready to sign an agreement with the United States on participating in the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, DIS. Our commentary:

[Parkhomenko] Hello, comrades: FRG Economics Minister Bangermann went to Washington to sign this agreement. In this lies the subtlety. Officially Bonn is rushing to stress that the agreement has an exclusively peaceful, scientific and economic character, and is not at all military. In that case, Defense Minister Woerner would have had to sign it. However, there is one more delicate detail which would alert even the most trusting: The fact is that, by agreement with the United States, most of the clauses of this agreement will not be made public. They will be made known to only a narrow circle of people. A question arises: Why are the cooperation plans of the industrial firms and scientific laboratories of the United States and the FRG made secret if they are, as it is being maintained, of a peaceful nature?

From the very inception of the SDI project, the question of participation by U.S. allies has been a topic for bitter debate and the object of mass protests. Realistically thinking politicians, scientists, and military specialists, including those in the West, have often spoken about the aggressive trend of this so-called initiative. The FRG is no exception.

The opposition representatives in the Bundestag -- the Social Democrats and the Greens -- are not the only ones to have censured their country's plan to participate in the "star wars" program. Many deputies from the ruling coalition have also voiced doubts as to the correctness of the Kohl government's decision. This is why supporters of SDI have had to hide the content of this unpopular agreement from FRG society. This is why it has been dressed in peaceful clothing.

Marches Protest Agreement

LD282219 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1900 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Viktor Levin commentary]

[Excerpts] In West Germany the traditional Easter peace marches have begun. According to reports from Hamburg, one of the main slogans under which peace supporters are marching is the demand for the United States to abandon plans to prepare "star wars." The linking of the FRG to the U.S. program of strategic defense research is also condemned. Here is our station commentary from Viktor Levin:

The participants in the Easter marches had not yet set off when the official spokesman of the FRG Government Ost reproached them for allegedly whipping up hysteria and sowing panic. No one is threatening peace, Ost assured. The Bonn government equally light-heartedly interprets its joining the U.S. "star wars" program as a contribution to peace. Repeating the stale ideas of U.S. official propaganda, Bonn affirms that the SDI is a completely defensive program and its implementation will serve the interests of consolidating peace. This logic, as you see, is the same as in Ost's affirmations, but its contradiction with facts and good sense is so obvious that not only antiwar movement activists, but also many politicians of parties represented in the Bundestag are critical of the SDI itself and the Federal Republic's joining it.

That the SDI has nothing in common with defense, that spreading the arms race to space threatens to increase the danger of nuclear war sharply and will certainly disrupt nuclear disarmament has been argued repeatedly. Peace supporters understand this. They understand it and firmly oppose SDI, and it is natural that these who take on the role of accomplices of the U.S. Administration are under fire from their criticism.

Europe, and all Europe, can and must make its contribution to the cause of strengthening peace. In this vital process history itself gives it a special role. Wide circles of public opinion -- and this is shown in particular by the Easter peace marches beginning in Europe -- recognize this responsibility and are quite determined to make a contribution to consolidating peace. But, you would certainly not say this of the governments of a number of countries. The Bonn government spokesman Ost, with his statement that no one is threatening peace also is trying to mask the indisputable fact that FRG policy, expressed in aiding and abetting U.S. militarist ambitions, is a factor not strengthening peace, but undermining it. This policy corresponds to the interests of certain circles in the United States but fundamentally contradicts the interests of the FRG itself and Europe as a whole.

REACTION TO SOVIET MEDITERRANEAN PROPOSALS CITED

PM010914 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS roundup: "To Create a Barrier Against Nuclear War"]

[Excerpt] The Soviet Union advocates the curbing of the arms race, the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, the solution of problems of peace and development, and the blocking of the path of nuclear war; it calls for responsible policies from others and condemns the aggressive, provocative, and neoglobalist U.S. policy, which creates a threat to international peace and security. This idea is emphasized in the broad international response to the Soviet-Algerian talks and the speeches exchanged at the Kremlin dinner by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria and general secretary of the National Liberation Front Party. The new Soviet peace initiatives have generated a broad response in the world.

Algiers -- The Soviet-Algerian talks and the Kremlin speeches have generated enormous interest in Algeria. The Soviet Union is convinced that there is broad scope for equal and mutually advantageous Soviet-Algerian cooperation, the newspaper EL MOUDJAHID writes. At a time when the international situation causes grave anxiety; when seats of tension are not only not disappearing but, on the contrary, increasing in number -- as shown by events in the Mediterranean -- it is important that the two countries whose viewpoints coincide on many issues should concentrate their efforts on achieving the goals of complete decolonialization, establishment of a new international economic order, disarmament, security, and the ensuring of peace throughout the world. Together with other Algerian press organs, this newspaper gives particular attention to the statement by the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee that if the United States were to withdraw its fleet from the Mediterranean, the Soviet Union would simultaneously do the same, and that the USSR is ready to embark without any delay on talks concerning this issue. The Soviet Union advocates the transformation of the Mediterranean into a zone of stable peace and cooperation, EL MOUDJAHID points out. M.S. Gorbachev and C. Bendjedid resolutely condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya and reaffirmed their solidarity with the Libyan people.

The Soviet Union, another Algerian newspaper, AL-SHA'B, points out, attaches great importance to the stance of the Nonaligned Movement, in which Algeria occupies a leading position, and expects that it will play an increasingly important role in world politics. The similarity or coincidence of the USSR's and Algerian approaches to the solution of many international problems, the news agency APS emphasizes, stem logically from their friendship and mutual understanding. Algeria highly values the constructive Soviet initiatives in the disarmament sphere. According to the newspaper HORIZON-2000, C. Bendjedid's official friendly visit to the Soviet Union will give a new boost to mutually advantageous cooperation between the two countries. Algeria and the Soviet Union stand on similar positions, particularly on questions concerning the peoples' national liberation struggle. It is sufficient to recall the diverse assistance rendered by the USSR to Arab peoples opposing the imperialist U.S. policy.

Tripoli -- The USSR's stance, expressed in the speech by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, has unmasked the rapacious aggressive policy of U.S. imperialism, which threatens peace all over the world, Libya's UN representative Rajab al-Zaruq declared. Washington is provocatively "flexing military muscles" throughout the world -- in the Mediterranean, in the Korean peninsula, and in the Indian Ocean. It threatens the peoples of all developing countries, particularly small ones, which follow an independent policy and wish to build their life according to their own views; the objective of this policy, as the Soviet leader's speech convincingly showed, is to impose global U.S. hegemony on the peoples.

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, the Libyan newspaper AL-FAJR AL-JADID writes, resolutely condemned the U.S. Administration for its aggressive action against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. He declared that the U.S. actions constitute a challenge to the entire world public and a trampling of universally recognized civilian relations. Facts testify that it is a question not of an incident that has occurred suddenly but of a kind of "punitive" operation planned and considered in advance.

Damascus -- It was delcared in Moscow, the Syrian news agency SANA reports, that the use of U.S. weapons against independent and sovereign Libya has exposed the imperialist and predatory face of U.S. neoglobalist policy. The Soviet Union expresses solidarity with the Libyan people who are upholding their sacred right to freedom and independence from imperialist encroachments.

Washington -- The Soviet leader, THE WASHINGTON POST notes, pointed out that the Soviet Union is forced to maintain its ships in the Mediterranean for one single reason -- the U.S. 6th Fleet, threatening the security of the USSR and its friends and allies, is in the immediate vicinity of Soviet borders. If the United States were to withdraw its fleet from there, the Soviet Union would simultaneously do the same. It is prepared to embark without any delay on talks concerning this issue. The Soviet leader, the U.S. news agency UPI reports, joined a new call for the withdrawal of U.S. and Soviet ships from the Mediterranean to previous Soviet proposals for the transformation of that sea into a zone of peace. The Soviet Union dispalyed support for Libya, THE NEW YORK TIMES points out. The Soviet leader's condemnation of the aggressive U.S. action against Libya followed Moscow's declaration that this action could lead to serious consequences reaching far beyond its borders.

REPORT ON 1985 SOVIET TRADE WITH CAPITALIST COUNTRIES

LD312211 Moscow TASS in English 1833 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- The TASS economic news desk reports:

The total volume of trade turnover between the Soviet Union and industrially developed capitalist countries in 1985 exceeded 37.8 billion roubles. Soviet exports to these countries amounted to about 18.6 billion roubles and imports to 19.2 billion roubles. A TASS correspondent got these figures at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade.

The FRG remained the USSR's biggest trade partner from among Western countries: The volume of Soviet-West German trade last year was about 7.09 billion roubles (of this sum Soviet export was 3.99 billion roubles). The USSR's trade turnover with Finland was 4.99 billion roubles (Soviet exports - 2.3 billion roubles), with Italy - 3.79 billion roubles (Soviet exports - 2.47 billion roubles), with France -- 3.78 billion roubles (Soviet exports -- 2.17 billion roubles). The volume of the USSR's trade with Japan grew by 320.6 million roubles as compared to the previous year and exceeded 3.21 billion roubles in 1985 (Soviet export to the Japanese market - 928 million roubles).

Then comes the USSR's trade with the United States which amounted last year to more than 2.7 billion roubles. Soviet trade with Britain in 1985 amounted to 1.9 billion roubles (including Soviet export - 1.22 billion roubles), with Austria - 1.66 billion (exports - 804.6 million roubles), Belgium - 1.44 billion (858.1 million), Holland - 1.3 billion (986.6 million). The Soviet Union's trade exchange with Canada amounted to 966.8 million roubles.

Last year the Soviet Union's trade turnover with Switzerland was 927.9 million roubles (including Soviet export - 383.8 million roubles), with Sweden - 798.4 million roubles (492.1 million roubles), Greece - 728.2 million (593.9 million), Spain - 588.4 million (235 million). The volume of Soviet Australian trade went up by 42.5 million roubles as compared to the previous year and amounted to 545.8 million roubles.

The volume of the Soviet Union's trade turnover with West Berlin was 408.5 million roubles (including Soviet deliveries - 259.3 million roubles), with Denmark - 397.8 million roubles (270.8 million), Norway - 177.6 million (104.3 million), Iceland - 109.5 million (60.1 million), Portugal - 106.4 million (48.9 million). Soviet-New Zealand trade was worth 90.9 million roubles, a growth of 34.4 million roubles over the previous year.

The Soviet Union's trade and economic ties with other industrially developed capitalist countries also developed in 1985. The trade turnover with Ireland in 1985 amounted to 56.5 million roubles (Soviet exports - 25.5 million roubles), with Malta - 27.2 million roubles, Luxembourg - 19.3 million and with Lichtenstein - 7.9 million roubles.

NONALIGNED COUNTRIES CONDEMN U.S. AGGRESSION IN NICARAGUA

LD312217 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] New York March 31 TASS -- The Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned countries has denounced the escalation of the aggression aimed against the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Nicaragua and demanded that the United States immediately stop funding anti-Nicaraguan gangs.

At its session the bureau adopted a communique which expresses grave concern over the deterioration of the situation in the region caused by the unabated acts of aggression against Nicaragua, designed to overthrow its lawful government. The Non-Aligned countries demanded an immediate end to the campaign of provocations, threats and attacks on the people and government of that Republic and stressed that the United States should resume the bilateral talks with Nicaragua, which were broken off by it.

WEEKLY 'INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERS ROUNDTABLE'

LD301705 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1130 GMT 30 Mar 86

["International Observers Roundtable" program with Rudolf Georgiyevich Kolchanov, deputy editor in chief of TRUD; Aleksandr Aleksandrovich Lebedev, deputy editor in chief of MIROVAYA EKONOMIKA I MEZHDUNARODNYYE OTNOSHENIYA; and Aleksandr Vladimirovich Zholkver, politcal observer of central television and All-Union Radio]

[Text] [Zholkver] Hello, comrades. At the center of everyone's attention today is the address by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev on the issue of halting nuclear tests. This is now one of the main issues of the day: upon its solution depends the halting of the nuclear arms race, upon its solution -- to a decisive extent -- depends the strengthening of peace on our planet. It seems to me that first of all we ought to remind ourselves, albeit briefly, of the history of the nuclear test-ban issue.

[Lebedev] Well if we are going to talk about the history of this issue, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, then of course this is an appropriate time for recalling it, for way back in 1946 the Soviet Union was the first to make a proposal for the banning of nuclear weapons for all time, for eliminating nuclear weapons, and for using nuclear energy exclusively for peaceful purposes. In general, this was a call to the United States. The consequences of the barbarous bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki were still fresh in the memories of people, bombing which was carried out by the United States. But evidently in the United States and elsewhere in the West at that time there were circles which thought that they would be able to preserve their atomic monopoly, if not forever then at any rate for a sufficiently lengthy period in order to implement the atomic blackmail diplomacy of sad repute. The consequences of the refusal of the United States and its allies to accept the Soviet Union's proposal are still felt to this day.

[Kolchanov] Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, I agree with you, the history of this issue, the history of the issue of the banning of nuclear tests, has indeed now become a part of history. I am not going to dwell in detail on all the stages in the history, if you will, of the Soviet Union's peaceful battle for nuclear disarmament: I am just going to remind our listeners of those stages which are perhaps the most important ones. On 5 August 1963, a treaty banning tests of nuclear weapons in three environments was signed in Moscow. It can be stated firmly that the conclusion of this treaty was first and foremost the consequence of the persistent and consistent efforts of the Soviet Union.

[Kholkver] And as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev put it while speaking on Soviet television, this means that now we do not have to start from scratch.

[Kolchanov] Yes, definite experience has already been built up in the struggle for achieving an agreement of this kind, and definite experience has also been built up of a negative kind, so to speak...

[Zholkver, interrupting] Of resistance to banning nuclear weapons.

[Kolchanov] Yes, yes, that is precisely what I wanted to say. In 1977, on the initiative of the USSR, tripartite talks begin between the USSR, the United States, and Britain with the object of working out a treaty on the complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons tests. By the summer of 1980, it had proved possible in the main to coordinate the provisions of the treaty, a number of technical appendices, and the issues of monitoring. But in the West there was a sharp turn towards confrontation. In November 1980, the American side broke off these talks and in July 1982, President Reagan made a unilateral decision not to resume them at all.

[Zholkver] True, it has to be said that this did not stop our country in its desire to erect barriers in the path of nuclear arming. I remember, Rudolf Georgiyevich, that in that same year -- 1982 -- the Soviet Union took upon itself unilaterally at the session of the UN General Assembly an obligation not to be the first to use nuclear weapons.

[Kolchanov] Also in 1982, the Soviet Union presented at the General Assembly the basic provisions of a treaty on the complete and universal banning of nuclear weapons tests.

[Zholkver] Well, unfortunately, it has not yet proved possible to implement our proposals either within the UN or on a bilateral or trilateral basis or at the Geneva disarmament conference; we continue to favor bilateral and trilateral and multilateral talks on the issue of ending nuclear tests. This was stressed by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev. And we are also acting unilaterally.

[Kolchanov] Yes, and we are taking practical steps: There is the nuclear test moratorium about which everyone knows and which is widely supported in the world, which we introduced on the 40th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima, 6 August 1985. Then, as is known, we extended the moratorium until 31 March and after 31 March we are willing -- Mikhail Sergeyevich stressed this once again in his address -- not to resort to nuclear weapon tests if the Americans do the same.

[Lebedev] This is of course the manifestation of a very high sense of political responsibility which our leadership and our country is demonstrating once again in the critical period that mankind is currently living through. In the statement of 15 January, we proposed a stage-by-stage program of nuclear disarmament. One has to start somewhere. As Mikhail Sergeyevich said, the most realistic, the most simple step -- and also a radical step in this direction -- would be the reaching of an accord, primarily, of course, between the United States and the USSR but with other nuclear powers, too, on the immediate halting of all nuclear tests.

[Zholkver] And the Soviet Union also stressed its sense of responsibility and its goodwill with its proposal that there should be a meeting now, without delay, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev said, with the President of the United States either in Rome or in London...

[Kolchanov] Or in any European capital.

[Zholkver] Or in any European capital in order to start discussion of this very important issue and give instructions so that the appropriate documents might be able to be prepared. The Soviet Union, in fact, has stressed repeatedly that we favor a broad and effective system for monitoring a ban on nuclear tests. For a long time the issue of monitoring was an excuse for the West; it was allegedly difficult to monitor whether or not nuclear tests were being carried out. Well, scientists, including U.S. scientists, have confirmed that this can now be monitored by national means, but the Soviet Union is in favor of also carrying out monitoring tests on site in the event of its being necessary. The issue is not one of monitoring.

[Kolchanov] Of course.

[Zholkver] The issue is one of desire, of political will, of striving for the conclusion of a treaty of this kind. And, as Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev stressed when he appeared on television, the Soviet Union is once again appealing first and foremost to the U.S. Administration and giving one more chance -- if I can put it like that -- for thinking, for reflecting and ultimately for taking into consideration the demand of the world public. For of late it is not just the Soviet Union that has been coming out so persistently in favor of ending nuclear tests. Remember, for example, the appeal by the leaders of the six countries which signed the so-called Delhi declaration. They call insistently upon both the Soviet Union and the United States to end nuclear tests. I have seen a statement by the Indian Government, transmitted via the channels of the Indian Foreign Ministry. After the Soviet Union had responded positively to the second appeal by the six states, the U.S. Government dragged out its answer and the Indian Foreign Ministry then drew attention -- as this statement points out -- to the rapid response to this initiative by the Soviet leadership, unlike the U.S. leadership. True, the American leadership replied in its own special way, it replied with new nuclear explosions in Nevada.

[Lebedev] Yes, and this, of course, gives rise to a wholly justifiable feeling of indignation; this is naturally wholly understandable in our people, since our country, our government has in the recent period alone unilaterally made so many good-will gestures, so to speak, that it appeared one could wholly count upon at least some constructive reaction in response. This explosion in Nevada of course aroused great indignation among the world public and among the most diverse political forces. Furthermore, you know, the arrogance, demogoguery, and insincerity of the position of both the U.S. Administration and the leaders of a number of other countries which are its NATO partners, are right now standing out in particular relief.

[Zholkver] This is giving rise to worry and indignation in the United States itself. For instance, I have seen an appeal by a whole detachment, I would call it, of U.S. religious figures, an appeal to the President, calling upon him to follow the example and actions of the Soviet Union is halting nuclear tests and to do the same; they declare, literally, we call upon you to take the next essential step and call an immediate halt to nuclear weapons tests. This decision will not place the national security of the United States under threat, they declare. A moratorium on testing nuclear weapons is subject to verification. Well, if even such figures as United States religious leaders are addressing such messages to the President, one must assume that this sort of mood is very widespread in the United States. And this appeal to the President states frankly: We are at a cross-roads; one way leads us to the dead end of nuclear destruction, and the other to the future of a world without nuclear weapons.

[Kolchanov] The world is indignant, the world protests. The U.S. Administration's words are sharply at variance with its deeds, and this position, apparently, is not by chance.

[Zholkver] Yes, indeed. Behind this are indeed the interests of other circles, first and foremost the military-industrial circles in the United States, those who place their stake on the illusory search for military supremacy on earth and in space.

[Kolchanov] Yes, the SDI program, the so-called Strategic Defense Initiative, has nothing to do with defensive aims, but has a great deal to do with deployment [razmeshcheniye] of nuclear weapons in space. This is one reason explaining why such a negative position on the part of the U.S. Administration is not accidental.

[Zholkver] Yes, for it was just the other day that the White House delivered what was more or less an ultimatum and demanded that Congress should urgently -- as it stated -- lift the ban on testing the ASAT antisatellite weapon. May I remind you that last year Congress refused to allocate funds for such tests to be carried out; this is a certain barrier to putting weapons into space. And now the White House has insisted that this should be replaced. Why? Well, because in the spite of the catastrophe over the Challenger spacecraft, and even though the reasons for this have still not been finally explained, plans have already been announced in the United States for 9 launches of the reusable spacecraft in shuttle program to be carried out to start with, then 12 and 18, starting February of next year. And the majority of these launches are to be openly military in nature.

[Lebedev] Yes, and at the same time, all this is accompanied by very dangerous statements on the part of quite responsible U.S. officials in connection with the fact that the realization of the programs you mentioned, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, will require the violation or repudiation, shall we say, of treaties between the USSR and United States which have already been concluded and which are currently being observed, in particular the SALT-II Treaty and the ABM Treaty. As Weinberger's aide, Perle, has stated, the United States will have to resort, as he put it, to an expanded interpretation, to an expanded interpretation, you see, of the ABM Treaty, for instance. But to call a spade a spade, that means violation of the treaty.

[Zholkver] Yes, an agreement has just been signed in Washington between the FRG Economics Minister Bangemann and the U.S. Defense Department head Weinberger, on the question of the FRG's participation in the American military space programs. Well, it is true, as one should point out, that a number of maneuvers were undertaken here. As I have said, it was signed on behalf of the West German side not by a military figure but by an economic one, so as to make all this out to be, so to speak, some sort of economic project, as they said. But there is no getting round it. Of course, economic interests are involved here, that is, the interests of the major West German military concerns. Bangemann himself names about 50 or 60 firms in the FRG...

[Kolchanov]... Mainly from Southern Bavaria, where the largest military industrial firms are situated.

[Zholkver] Yes, aviation, aerospace firms, these are interested in it. That is so. But it is clear that it is a purely military program which the FRG is now joining, and the ruling circles in Bonn indisputably will bear their share of responsibility for this, as the FRG Social Democrats are now saying publicly.

[Kolchanov] One would like to say that they do not know what they are doing in this case, but the trouble is that, in fact, they do know what they are doing.

For example, I remember a conversation I had in the Bundestag, where three deputies said: Well, we have a democratic country; we cannot ban our firms from participating if they want to. Meanwhile, however, the FRG Constitution itself contains an article that pronounces as unconstitutional and punishable those actions capable of violating the peoples' peaceful life. If they wanted to ban these firms from participating, they could, naturally, do so. That is purely an excuse. The fact is that the U.S. is exerting strong pressure. The American aspiration to make Western Europe a nuclear hostage is being realized; their aspiration to draw it into another nuclear space adventure also is being realized. But I agree, Aleksandr Aleksandrovich, the West Europeans themselves -- I mean, of course, the leaders of those countries can in no event (?evade) responsibility.

[Zholkver] Yes, this relates, incidentally, to Japan, as well. The latest Japanese delegation -- the third, if I am not mistaken -- is now leaving for the States to study this issue. But, what, properly speaking, is there to study? For Weinberger has frankly stated that the Japanese have more advanced technology than the United States in whole series of spheres, first and foremost microelectronics. The United States is aiming to make use of this in military space programs, and demanding that Japan join in with SDI. Here, again, I have seen a report that representatives of 18 Japanese corporations, major ones like Hitachi, Toshiba, Fujitsu, Nissan, are sending their representatives to the United States to discuss this matter. This is not just an economic matter. Of course, these companies may indeed acquire profits at some stage, but what a risk! What a responsibility for the destiny of Japan itself as well -- which has felt U.S. nuclear bombs for itself -- is being assumed by those prepared to sign the agreements on cooperation in "star wars."

But, it seems to me that we have, so to speak, gone out into space; if we come back to our sinful earth, there are more than enough examples of what this obstinate U.S. refusal to subscribe to our proposal for halting nuclear tests is connected with. It is a manifestation of that very same imperial policy of strength...

[Lebedev, interrupting] Arrogance...

[Zholkver, interrupting] Arrogance, an aspiration to force other peoples to function, to act, to have the social system which is to the contemporary U.S. leaders' liking.

And, strictly...

[Kolchanov, interrupting] And to punish all those who disagree with that. Although what right do they have to punish sovereign states, which might not have the same power as the United States but which have the same measure, the same completeness of sovereignty?

[Zholkver] Rudolf Georgiyevich, I believe you are thinking above all of Libya, if we are talking of recent events.

[Kolchanov] Of course, of course, it is a question of Libya.

[Lebedev] On the whole, if one now takes a look at this concept of neoglobalism, if one investigates it, it will become clear what aspect is new about it. The new thing, simply, is that every U.S. president deems it his duty to create his own doctrine and to propagandize it in very possible way. But, if we recall the Truman Doctrine, which, it seems, already showed its complete bankruptcy in the era in which it was espoused, is it not clear today, in the nuclear missile and space era, that a similar concept -- even if one calls it by this pseudo-new word, neoglobalism -- that it is unrealizable? It is equally unrealizable as the previous, considering the technical level of modern armaments and the threat of an arms race. Well, Rudolf Georgiyevich now spoke of Libya and about those aggressive actions against a sovereign state. And what about Nicaragua?

[Zholkver] But it must be noted that times have changed in the world, as well as the arrangement of forces, and it also must be noted that people see dangers more distinctly and come out against them more actively. For example, the true explosions of indignation aroused by the explosion in Nevada, the U.S. missile attacks on Libya, and the undeclared war against Nicaragua. Here are the events literally of the last few hours: The Arab League Council unanimously condemns the United States for its actions against Libya; an extraordinary session of the Nonaligned countries' Coordination Bureau harshly condemns the United States for its provocations in the Mediterranean; the Security Council discusses the issue, and Malta's representative declares that no threat of force can be permitted, especially when it is a question of actions by a UN member-state thousands of miles away from its shores. It is clear which country is in question. And so, the French newspaper LIBERATION concludes that Washington found itself isolated from a political point of view. Even the NATO council, at ambassador level, did not support the Pentagon's action. You know how the Italian Government fairly unambiguously condemned these acts. Shultz is presently in Rome and, strictly speaking, if one may say so, is squeezing the Italian Government on the issue, which is not at all easy. I am not even mentioning the mass anti-U.S. demonstrations that have rolled across Italy, especially in towns in the vicinity of U.S. bases. The bases were put on combat readiness in connection with these events. The U.S. Administration, LIBERATION notes, can only count on its faithfull ally, Israel, which indeed used this tense situation in the Mediterranean to unleash a new barbarian air raid on Palestinian refugee camps and new provocations in southern Lebanon. These actions, incidentally, just as the actions against Nicaragua, found the widest condemnation everywhere, including, as I have already said, among the closest U.S. allies in NATO.

[Lebedev] Well, Aleksandr Vladimirovich, you have just listed a whole chain of events. Rudolf Georgiyevich for his part has noted all these regional conflicts and tensions in various parts of the world and so on, and all this against the background of a clearly growing military confrontation between the principal powers, in the military-technological plane, so to speak. Clearly we are now already talking, as described in the 27th congress Political Report, not of equal security but of equal danger precisely founded upon the established military-strategic equilibrium. But, very soon, and this was emphasized at the congress, this equal danger may become insufficient as, so to speak, a deterrent factor. When you hear all this, read it, the question inevitably arises: Is there some realistic, constructive, practical way out of this most complicated international situation? Along what paths is it possible to seek this way out and get out of blind alleys?

[Zholkver] It is a question of establishing an all-embracing system of international security. Its major component, of course, is curbing the arms race, above all nuclear arms. The most effective, simplest, and most realizable measure toward this in the immediate future is halting nuclear tests. That is precisely why our country is posing this issue so intensely, so persistently, and so stubbornly.

[Kolchanov] The 27th congress put forth a program for the total eliminating of mass-destruction weapons by the end of this century and adopted the foundations for an all-embracing system of international security. It is a document of enormous gravity, having an enormous effect upon antiwar movements, and enjoying the widest support of millions of people in every region of our planet. I would just like to recall the military part of this foundation for an all-embracing system of international security. It includes renouncement by the nuclear powers of warring against each other or against third states in both the nuclear and conventional spheres. It proceeds from the necessity to prevent an arms race in space; to halt all nuclear weapons tests, and to completely eliminate them; to ban and destroy chemical weapons; to renounce other means of mass destruction; and so on. Indeed an all-embracing system of all-embracing security.

[Zholkver] And now, in conclusion, I will cite what Mikhail Sergeyevich again emphasized while speaking on Soviet television: We are not going to depart from the course of preserving and strengthening peace, reaffirmed by the 27th CPSU Congress.

U.S. DECISION ON STINGER MISSILES REPORTED, VIEWED

Television Report

OW010214 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1115 GMT 31 Mar 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Bronislav Myakota]

[Text] An alarming report has been received from Washington today. The United States, using CIA channels, has begun secret shipment of the most modern U.S. weapons -- Stinger missiles -- to antigovernment terrorist gangs in Angola. THE WASHINGTON POST says the decision to begin shipment of Stinger missiles was very actively urged by Clair, chief of the department for CIA secret operations. The director of the agency of spies and subversion, Casey -- during his visit to Africa at a secret meeting with Savimbi, leader of the National Union for the Total Liberation of Angola [UNITA] dissident group and paid CIA agent -- stated that effective weapons for his bandits are already on the way. The decision to increase military aid to the gangs not only in Angola, but also in Afghanistan, was adopted by the White House earlier in the month on the advice of a special interdepartmental group planning and coordinating all CIA secret operations.

This group -- which has been given the unofficial designation the 208 Committee, the number of the room where its sessions are held -- includes high officials of the State Department, the CIA, the Pentagon, and the National Security Council. It is precisely this group that has come to the conclusion that antigovernment groups in Angola and Afghanistan need more deadly armaments.

THE WASHINGTON POST notes that these arms shipments will lead to increased CIA intervention in the internal affairs of developing states.

U.S. Waging 'War by Proxy'

LD311032 Moscow TASS in English 1017 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 31 TASS -- The U.S. Administration is intensifying its policy of breeding regional conflicts and blocking peaceful settlement in the "trouble spots" of the world, notably in Central America, southern Africa, the Middle East and Asia.

According to the NBC television company, the administration has decided without much publicity to begin shipments of modern weapons to Afghan counter-revolutionaries and anti-government groups in Angola. The case in point is the delivery of Stinger anti-aircraft missiles and other newest weapon systems.

A similar report appeared in THE WASHINGTON POST. Quoting informed sources in the administration, the paper wrote that the White House has taken the decision to this effect earlier in March on the recommendation of a special inter-departmental group planning and coordinating "covert operations" of the CIA.

The group, known as the "208 Committee" (from the number of the office where it meets), includes high-ranking officials of the U.S. Department of State, the CIA, the Pentagon and the National Security Council.

The White House describes bandits whom it lavishly supplies with weapons by a lofty-sounding word -- "freedom-fighters". This word-juggling act, however, cannot conceal the fact that in reality Washington befriends hardened criminals, professional hangmen and terrorists.

These are Afghan counter-revolutionaries who massacre peaceful civilians, teachers and medical doctors. These are former Somozists who had "ensured the interests" of American monoplies in Nicaragua for 40 years by means of bloody terror, and are now trying to topple the Sandinista government with CIA's assistance, to put an end to revolutionary transformations in that country. These are henchmen of the South African racists for UNITA who stage armed raids on Angola. These are what remained of the Pol Pot horde of pathological killers.

Staking on these outcasts of history, the United States reveals in full view of the world its retrograde, anti-popular foreign policy course which is doomed to failure because it is retrograde and anti-popular.

Observers point out that the decision on new arms deliveries to Afghan counterrevolutionaries was taken following the recent trip to Pakistan of the U.S. Attorney General Edwin Meese who had visited there counterrevolutionaries' camps and had promised to further render lavish assistance to them.

The same as before, new armaments will be delivered to the counterrevolutionaries through the territory of Pakistan (of which Washington is most outspoken) that has been turned by Washington into a base of the undeclared war against the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Washington obviously intends to wage the war by proxy. The Ziaul Haq regime should realize into what dangerous ventures Pakistan's overseas "patrons" are trying to draw that country, for the results of it could be disastrous.

The more defiant is the behaviour of the U.S. in the international area -- the more hypocritical is the rhetoric with which it tries to camouflage its policy of confrontation.

Thus, the U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz who toured a number of European country spoke out in favour of the "revival of the progress" achieved in the period preceding the Geneva summit, of a calm and purposeful discussion of problems. The first impression is that there is every reason to welcome this statement.

However, on the eve of his trip, at a meeting with leaders of ultra-right-wing organizations the same Shultz announced new massive arms deliveries to all sorts of gangs in various parts of the world with the help of which the CIA was trying to overthrow the legitimate governments which pursue a policy not suitable to Washington. It is clear to everybody that the policy of "neoglobalism", in other words the export of counter-revolution, is incompatible with the spirit of Geneva.

If Washington really seeks the lessening of international tension and the improvement of the world climate, it should stop looking for a cover-up for its policy which has ended in failure but still is dangerous to the cause of peace, assess the situation in the world soberly and pragmatically and give up the policy of confrontation and the kindling of conflicts.

CIA HEAD 'MAIN CHAMPION' OF U.S. NEOGLOBALISM

LD311518 Moscow TASS in English 1508 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Washington March 31 TASS -- The "knights of cloak and dagger" from the U.S. CIA and personally its head William Casey are the main champions of President Reagan's doctrine of neoglobalism which envisages the so-called "right" of Washington to interfere in the internal affairs of developing countries and to place in power pro-American regimes there.

This follows from an article published by WASHINGTON POST today. It shows that Casey has turned the CIA into an obedient tool of the White House ready to develop and "justify" any adventuristic ideas of leaders of the administration.

According to the newspaper, Casey "angrily rejected CIA analyses that did not mesh with the anti-Soviet pronouncements of White House policy-makers and speech writers." The CIA director sees the "hand of Moscow" everywhere and incessantly urges to "combat communism."

WASHINGTON POST writes that "in 1982 Casey ordered an intelligence review of the African Continent. When the rough draft came to his desk, it... concentrated on the indigenous problems of agriculture, education, poverty and development. Casey was reportedly incensed at the draft and replaced the analyst with another senior official" whose anti-Soviet views were well-known. This resulted in the drawing up of the report which concentrated mainly on the "hand of Moscow" and ignored almost totally the regional problems of the continent.

The CIA director reportedly loves covert operations. Those who do not agree with the idea of the usefulness of large-scale secret operations for the U.S. are simply removed by him from the management. His latest victim is John McMahon, a high-ranking CIA officer.

The newspaper describes Casey as one of the anti-Soviet "activists" of the top echelon of the administration and points out that the influence of the CIA director on the shaping of the U.S. foreign policy is growing. WASHINGTON POST explains it largely by his close relationship with the President and the virtually identical outlook the two men share on what they describe as the "global Soviet threat."

OREKHOV VIEWS WEINBERGER TRIP TO FAR EAST

LD291600 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1208 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] Washington, 29 Mar (TASS) -- Nikolay Orekhov reports: C. Weinberger, U.S. defense secretary, leaves on 31 March for a 2-week trip to Asian and Pacific countries, visiting South Korea, Japan, the Philippines, Thailand, and Australia.

In Seoul the Pentagon chief will head the U.S. delegation at the annual, 18th to date, U.S.-South Korean consultative meeting on security matters, which will, as usual, be devoted to discussion of questions connected with the presence on South Korea's territory of the many thousands of U.S. troops. This year however the U.S. defense secretary also intends to use the meeting to clarify the "safety margins" of the puppet regime of Chon Tu-hwan which is now coming up against a marked awakening of the democratic opposition inside the country, which is causing unconcealed disquiet within the Washington administration.

Weinberger's visit to Japan, which Washington is trying more and more actively to draw into its militarist preparations in the Far East, will begin with a visit to the air base of Misawa on the island of Hokkaido where American F-16 fighter bombers, capable of carrying nuclear weapons, are based. It is also planned for the Pentagon chief to attend exercises of Japanese "Self-Defense Forces." But Weinberger, as observers consider, will concentrate his attention on efforts to attract Japan into the implementation of Washington's "Strategic Defense Initiative" which is aimed at the militarization of space.

During talks in Manila, the head of the U.S. military department plans to promise the new government of the Philippines a significant expansion of American military and economic assistance in exchange for keeping Subic Bay and Clark Air Base, the largest U.S. military bases abroad.

In the words of the American press, the main aim of Weinberger's visit to Bangkok is to encourage "Thailand's efforts to modernize its defense potential."

Great significance is being paid in Washington to Weinberger's visit to Canberra where he will try to enlist Australia's support for the continuing U.S. conflict with New Zealand that was caused by its government banning the entry of American ships with nuclear weapons on board into New Zealand's ports.

BUSH CALLS FOR CONTINUED U.S. NAVAL BUILDUP

LD310709 Moscow TASS in English 0658 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] New York, March 31 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladislav Orlov reporting.

U.S. Vice-President George Bush called for a further buildup of the strike capability of the U.S. Navy. He made remarks at a ship-building yard in Maine during the launching of a new guided missile frigate, the Kaufman, which is the 567th vessel in the armada of U.S. warships showing the flag around the world.

Washington is known to have made naval buildup and modernization one of the main elements of the notorious program for "America's re-armament". The aim is to increase the number of naval ships to 600.

The vice-president actually confirmed the intention of the White House to use naval power as an instrument for global expansion and imperialist diktat. His remarks were clearly congruous with the recent call of the U.S President for peace "from strength". Bush emphasized that the interests of "peace and freedom" demanded that the United States has the world's most powerful navy.

Bush cynically described numerous punitive expeditions of U.S. warships to the coasts of other nations within the framework of its notorious "gunboat diplomacy" as "peace-keeping missions" throughout the 20th century. At the same time he referred to the piratic act staged by the 6th U.S. Fleet against Libya as something the U.S. took pride in.

Ordinary Americans responded to the speech of the U.S. vice-president by staging a demonstration in the yard as Bush was making his remarks. The demonstrators demanded an end to the interventionist policy of the White House.

KOLESNICHENKO ASSESSES U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

PM280933 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 86 First Edition p 4

[Article by T. Kolesnichenko: "In the Spider's Web of Stereotypes"]

[Text] The West German magazine STERN, noting the grave failures of U.S. foreign policy, remarked recently: "But all this does not deprive America of its complacency which under Ronald Reagan has assumed exaggerated proportions. Anything can happen but America is proud of itself. It can no longer feel the alienation growing between it and the rest of the world...The errors, tragedies, even catastrophes, have no place in his cliche-ridden thinking." If you consider that these opinions are being expressed not just anywhere but in a country firmly attached to Washington's policy, you can imagine the pitch of criticism which its adventurist course is generating throughout the world.

Nonetheless the U.S. Administration continues stubbornly to steer its course. One act of provocation follows another. The most recent have been the nuclear explosion in Nevada and the act of piracy perpetrated 15,000 km from U.S. territory off Libyan shores. Why does Washington react with imperial arrogance to the world public's protests and why is it openly setting about aggravating the international situation?

There are external and domestic reasons for this. Let us begin with the fact that never before in U.S. history has an administration so thickly stuffed with anticommunist "ideologists" threatening the course of historical development stood at the helm of power. Some of these "ideologists," moving from the Californian capital to Washington and taking Cabinet posts, are continuing to look on the world from the same frankly provincial level. And these latter-day crusaders see Satan's "evil empire" which has stuck in the throat of "God-chosen" America. That is why everything which issues from the Soviet Union, including its peace initiatives, allegedly comes from the Evil One, is advantageous only to the USSR, and contradicts U.S. interests.

During its term in office the present administration has not changed this thinking stereotype, despite political experience. Interviewing the U.S. President recently, NBC television asked whether he still adheres to the opinion he voiced several years ago to the effect that the Soviet Union is the "evil empire" representing the gravest threat to peace. He replied: "I have tried tactically to calm down because we are now trying to conduct talks and achieve some kind of agreements."

So are talks tactics? And does Washington have no intention of "calming down" strategically with the Soviet Union, on hiking the arms race and creating dangerous regional conflicts? And in the chase after an unrealizable dream again trying to "roll back communism" and wear down the USSR's economy and undermine its political system? Here what is surprising is not the ideological blindness of the Washington figures who have resolved to reverse the wheel of history (that is the very essence of shameless anticommunism) but the methods which they use again and again. For instance, take the strong-arm pressure, the "showing of the flag" -- after all this has already happened frequently. It has happened and has ended ignominiously. Nonetheless Washington is again resorting to "muscle-flexing." The nuclear explosion in Nevada, the provocative entry of Warships into our territorial waters, and, finally, the act of tyranny against the Soviet UN mission -- this is for the sake of a "deterrent," and all these examples are some kind of "ballons d'essai." And suddenly the Russians will take fright and given in? That, it turns out, is the aim of the saber-rattling off Libyan shores.

In a report from the White House a CBS correspondent announced that one of the main aims of such operations in the Gulf of Sidra, the administration had told him, was "to demonstrate American might in order to impress (?!) the USSR."

It does of course make an impression. On the USSR and the whole world. But the opposite impression to the one on which Washington was counting. It is not fear, but a wave of anger and indignation which is mounting on the planet. The peoples unanimously denounce Washington's adventurist course and the "right" it has arrogated to interfere shamelessly in other people's affairs.

And here lies one more most substantial blunder on the part of the Washington leadership. By its militarist blather and nuclear explosions it would like to suppress the peaceful Soviet initiatives and divert world public attention from specific proposals on the most urgent problem of the present day -- the abolition of nuclear weapons -- which the Soviet Union has played on the conference table.

The tactics are most primitive but there is a big stake on them: What disarmament can there be, it is being said, when Soviet-U.S. relations are being aggravated and the "spirit of Geneva" is evaporating like dew in the dawn? Here, it is claimed, we must think not of disarmament but rather of arms upgrading. And in general until America creates an impenetrable space shield over its head there is no point in even talking of abolishing nuclear weapons. In their own interests the U.S. allies must rally as one under the SDI banner. And meanwhile they must engage in regional conflicts (of course, it is not the United States which is creating them) which place the world on the brink of war and aggravate Soviet-U.S. relations.

Here is the apology for logic which Washington follows. But in vain. Atlantic solidarity is cracking. Far from all the U.S. allies are now obediently swallowing the propaganda concoction prepared in Washington's kitchen. Some are openly turning their noses up at it. Others are maneuvering in an attempt to contrive not to be drawn into a dangerous and hopeless business. As a result, as THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER recently noted, having in mind the mounting support for the Soviet peace offensive, Washington "is now encountering a very grave political challenge from the USSR."

It must be said that the administration's present "global" policy is defined not least by strictly internal "domestic" considerations. However, the U.S. political phenomenon is manifested precisely in the fact that the ruling elite (more than anywhere in the capitalist world, where it is in genral an inherent characteristic) is guided above all not by general national interests but purely selfish interests which are only to its own advantage. Washington politicians sometimes prefer to gain a few thousand or even hundred notes from their fellow citizens (mostly right-wing or duped by propaganda) while losing the support of the public opinion of an entire allied state. In the White House and on Capitol Hill this is called "being a pragmatist." But in the corridors it is said of such people that they are "prepared to cut off their nose to spite their face." In other words, they are prepared to embark on any adventures and illegal steps and finally jeopardize their country's security as long as they achieve power.

In that sense the present administration has broken all records. Its propaganda efforts have created a series of simple stereotypes in which, it must be said, quite a lot of Americans believe. Here are just a few of them: Inasmuch as the Soviet Union threatens America, the latter must be strong and arm itself. Any talks must be conducted from a position of strength. If we do not continue to arm ourselves, there will be no talks.

Nonsense, you say? Of course, but imagine the American "boondocks" where the supreme cultural achievement is the television set and the public assembly place is the church. This selfsame nonsense in a "patriotic" packaging is repeated there day after day from the pulpit and the screen. Movies about a "Soviet invasion" of the United States are shown regularly there. The result is that the continuation of the nuclear explosion in Nevada allegedly brings an agreement on ending them closer.

Another stereotype: America is losing its position in the world arena, it is being crowded out by Communism. Communism must be stopped or the United States will become a second-rate power and lose world prestige. And since that is so, it is perfectly justifiable for Washington to send its emissaries to all corners of the planet (as though they were various states of its own country) to decide on the spot how to hold elections, who should be in power and who should not, in brief, to interfere cynically in other people's affairs.

The present shameless U.S. action against Libya also has domestic propaganda backup. It has long been dinned into Americans that Libya is a source of international terrorism although, as is well known, these "laurels" go to Washington. But a stereotype is a stereotype. And official propaganda (as in the case of Grenada) is trumpeting: "Look what a winner the President is, we have scored off the terrorists." In addition "there are no or almost no American victims everything has been gotten "cheaply." [quotemarks as published] How can we fail to rally round such an administration and give the Republicans our votes at the congressional elections this November. And (this with a view to the long term) how can we fail to support the candidate of this "firm and resolute" party in the presidential elections in 1988.

And already some Democrats are worrying about how to associate themselves with an advantageous situation in order to get their piece and are approving the administration's "bold step" (?!)

And the administration is losing no time. It is trying everywhere to drawn all its blunders in the previous years of its rule in a "patriotic" euphoria. And there are many of these blunders: Poverty has risen, the federal budget deficit is snowballing, the dollar exchange rate is dropping, presenting the threat of the specter of inflation, and much else. But surely we should not be thinking about that, propaganda declares, now that the stars and stripes are off Libyan shores. This is all sad, but a fact. A great country, a country of fine workers, yet official propaganda is trying to reduce the mass consciousness stultified by the hypnosis of stereotypes, to the level of the ideas of a child playing with a toy pistol.

Of course, not everyone is hypnotized. Millions of Americans are realizing increasingly clearly where the administration's cowboy policy may lead the world and their own country. The truth about the Soviet Union is blazing a trail. The Soviet peace proposals are meeting with a profound response in the United States. That is why the President will have to "calm down," if only outwardly. That is why the White House has been compelled, if only verbally, to confirm its adherences to the "spirit of Geneva" and its readiness to improve Soviet-U.S. relations. An increasing number of Americans are realizing that today the U.S. military is sinking Libyan ships in the Gulf of Sidra and tomorrow it may sink the common ship containing all mankind.

Yes, it is time that Washington got out of the spider's web of decayed stereotypes and time that it finally calmed down. And not for "tactical" considerations but in the long term and in earnest.

U.S. NICARAGUA STANCE LINKED TO VIETNAM POLICY

LD312031 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1800 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Commentary by Vyacheslav Lavrentyev]

[Text] The Reagan administration's Central American policy has recently been compared increasingly with President Johnson's policy in Southeast Asia in the mid-1960s. At that time, Washington's attempt to obstruct the victory of the national patriotic forces in Vietnam and its aspiration at any cost to save the Saigon puppet regime led to the gradual involvement of the United States in a war which is now described in the United States as nothing other than an adventure.

Now the Reagan administration is involving the country in a similar adventure in Central America by attempting to destroy the revolutionary government of Nicaragua and to establish the systems which existed there during the time of its protege Somoza. It is true that the dictator himself is no longer alive, but the White House places its stakes on the members of his National Guard who are known as the contras.

Comrades, you know that the Vietnam war gave rise to a long period of shock among Americans not just because of the defeat and the senselessness of the casualties that were sustained. The country was stunned and indignant at how the authorities abused public opinion over the course of many years, at their lies, cunningly presenting the interests of the grasping military concerns as the interests of the whole nation. In brief, it was from beginning to end an adventure which was worked out and implemented by the White House, the CIA, and the Pentagon. The comparison between Vietnam and Nicaragua inevitably arises. As at that time, the whole policy of the present administration concerning Nicaragua is densely mingled with disinformation and distortion of facts. This is what Richard Cohen, observer for THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, writes about this: The U.S. Administration has made accusations against the Sandinist government that Brazilian extremists are being trained in Nicaragua, that Nicaragua is being transformed into an anti-Semitic state, and that the Nicaraguan leaders are trading all they can in drugs. Not one of these assertions, the American journalist stresses, was confirmed after painstaking checking. However, the lies helped the U.S. Administration gain the U.S. Senate's agreement to allocate $100 million in aid to the Nicaraguan contras. Moreover, units of the American regular Army are now being transferred to Honduras which could lead to the U.S. troops' direct invasion of Nicaragua.

Comrades, you know how the war in Vietnam ended for the United States. Let me be bold enough to state that if the U.S. military unleashes aggression against the Nicaraguan people, its result will the just as ignominious.

U.S. SECRETLY SENDS TROOPS TO HONDURAS

LD292030 Moscow TASS in English 1900 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Text] San Francisco March 29 TASS -- The sending of U.S. Army units to Honduras from Fort-Ord military base in the north of California started in an atmosphere of top secrecy, the California KVTU television company reported. The report stresses that representatives of the army command refused to specify the aims of that operation. It is pointed out in the circles of local observers that the dispatch of the troops to Honduras is taking place against the background of a frenzied anti-Nicaraguan campaign launched in the USA on the initiative of the U.S. Administration, which does not conceal its plans to overthrow the Sandinist government by means of crude force.

USSR-PRC FOREIGN MINISTRY TALKS FOCUS ON DISARMAMENT

LD310959 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Beijing, March 31 TASS -- Soviet-Chinese consultations have been held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China on the items of the agenda of the session of the U.N. General Assembly. Taking part in the consultations from the Soviet side was Igor Rogachev, member of the Collegium of the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and from the Chinese side -- Li Daoyu, head of a department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China. During the consultations held in a businesslike atmosphere much attention was devoted to the disarmament problem.

Participants in the consultations were received by the Deputy Foreign Minister of China Qian Qichen.

PRC'S ZHAO ZIYANG SPEAKS ON DISARMAMENT

LD282004 Moscow TASS in English 1835 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Beijing March 28 TASS -- A meeting was held here on the occasion of the International Year of Peace proclaimed by the United Nations Organization. The Premier of the PRC State Council Zhao Ziyang addressed it and said that China needs peace because it is only in conditions of peaceful development that the country can achieve flourishing, the aims of socialist modernisation requiring the efforts of several generations. The PRC's stand on the question of peace and its efforts in the interests of peace, Zhao Ziyang noted, exert and will exert a general impact on a world scale. "Being aware of this important mission", he said, "China is prepared to undertake the necessary efforts and make a contribution to the cause of peace and stability".

Having emphasised that China opposes the arms race, the premier of the State Council declared that in future the PRC will not stage nuclear tests in the atmosphere.

Zhao Ziyang outlined China's position on the problem of disarmament. It includes, in particular, the prohibition and total liquidation of nuclear arms as the ultimate aim; the proposal to reduce substantially all types of nuclear arms of the United States and the USSR because this, according to Zhao Ziyang, would create conditions for all nuclear states to hold an international conference with the aim of discussing further measures of nuclear disarmament; the commitment by all nuclear states not to be the first to use nuclear arms and the conclusion on this basis of an international convention banning their use; the use of outer space exclusively for peaceful purposes and the conclusion of an international agreement banning space arms; the total prohibition and destruction of chemical weapons; the implementation of the necessary verification measures.

But at the same time the Chinese leaders continue to base their approach to the problems of war and peace on the concept of the equal responsibility of the "two super powers", that is the United States and the USSR, for the existence of international tension and the war danger. Thus, in his report at a session of the National People's Congress in Beijing Zhao Ziyang stated: "The arms race and the struggle for regions between the two superpowers poses the main threat to peace in the whole world and the security of various countries".

JAPANESE OFFICIALS SAY MOSCOW AGREES TO FISHERY TALKS

OW010137 Tokyo KYODO in English 0120 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Moscow, March 31 KYODO -- The Soviet Union Monday agreed to hold ministerial talks with Japan to break the deadlock in negotiations to set fishing conditions and catch quotas in each other's 200 mile-economic zones, Japanese officials said.

The agreement came when Japanese Ambassador to Moscow Yasue Katori handed over a letter from Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe informing the Soviets of a Japanese decision to send Isutomu Hata, minister of agriculture, forestry and fisheries, to Moscow in a bid to resolve the matter.

A Soviet Foreign Ministry official said the country will issue a formal acceptance of Hata's visit in a few days.

DPRK PARLIAMENTARIANS BRIEFED BY OFFICIALS

PM010920 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 28 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report under general heading "Interparliamentary Ties": "USSR-DPRK"]

[Text] A delegation of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly headed by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the Assembly, arrived in Moscow 26 March on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet.

The delegation was met at the airport by A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; A.Ya Rybakov, USSR Supreme Soviet deputy; V.G. Vysotin, chief of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium International Relations Department; other officials; and DPRK ambassador to the USSR Kwon Hui-kyong.

A friendly conversation took place on the same day. The Korean comrades were briefed on progress in the fulfillment of the 27th CPSU Congress decisions, which are aimed at the acceleration of the country's socioeconomic development. It was noted with satisfaction that the constantly strengthening parliamentary contacts between the two countries make a weighty contribution to the strengthening of USSR-DPRK relations and accord with the interests of peoples in both states, as well as the cause of peace and international security.

The delegation's members headed by Yang Hyong-sop visited the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum on 27 March and laid a wreath. A wreath was also laid at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier by the Kremlin Wall.

Delegation Visits Uzbekistan

GF311812 Tashkent Domestic Service in Uzbek 0115 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] The DPRK delegation headed by Yang Hyong-sop, chairman of the Standing Committee of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly, which is currently on a friendly visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the USSR Supreme Soviet, has arrived in Tashkent. The airport was decorated with the flags of the DPRK, the USSR, and the Uzbek SSR. Comrade Khabibullayev, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet, and other officials welcomed the visiting delegation.

Comrade Salimov, chairman of the Uzbek SSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Yang Hyong-sop and the other members of the delegation yesterday. The guests (?have visited) Samarkand.

DPRK'S KIM IL-SONG MEETS SFRY'S VLAJKOVIC

LD301442 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 30 Mar 86

[Text] Pyongyang March 30 TASS -- The peace-minded forces of the world should foil the aggressive intrigues by U.S. imperialism aimed at building up armaments and militarizing outer space, and work more persistently for setting up nuclear weapon free zones in various parts of the globe, Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Workers' Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, said at a meeting with Radovan Vlajkovic, president of the collective presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, now on an official friendly visit here.

Kim Il-song stressed that the Korean people came up with peace initiatives for improving the situation in the Far Eastern region, normalizing relations between the North and South of the Korean Peninsula and unifying Korea by peaceful means. All these proposals, however, ran up against counteraction on the part of the United States and the Seoul regime, which carry on the policy of confrontation. This is borne out by the recent "Team Spirit-86" military maneouvres.

Vlajkovic drew attention to the importance for the cause of peace of the Soviet-U.S. arms limitation talks and urged the peoples of all countries to pool their efforts in the struggle for peace all over the world and the liquidation of the stockpiled weapons arsenals. He stated Yugoslavia's full support for the proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea aimed at ensuring peace in Korea and achieving its peaceful unification without outside interference.

MONGOLIAN ARMY DAY MARKED IN MOSCOW, ULAANBAATAR

PM181203 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 18 Mar 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed and TASS reports: "In Honor of the Anniversary"]

[Text] [Unattributed report] The Mongolian People's Army, which was born in the flames of revolutionary struggle, has traveled a glorious combat path in cooperation with the Soviet Armed Forces. Its servicemen, rallied closely around the MPRP, are greeting their holiday with new successes in combat and political training. This was stated at the ceremonial meeting of representatives of the capital's public and servicemen of the Moscow garrison to mark the 65th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army. It was held on 17 March at the M.V. Frunze Central House of the Soviet Army in Moscow.

On the presidium were leaders of a number of ministries and departments, generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces, veterans of the Great Patriotic War, and also Ts. Gurbadam, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR.

In the report by Army General V.I. Govorov, USSR deputy defense minister, it was noted that the Mongolian People's Army is a modern army of the socialist type. It makes a fitting contribution to the cause of strengthening the defense might of the fraternal socialist countries and fulfills with honor the historical mission of defending the interests of peace and socialism on the eastern borders of the socialist community.

The meeting was addressed by Major General (R. Gunchin-Ish), Army and Air Force attache to the Mongolian Embassy in the USSR.

On the same day, Maj Gen (R. Gunchin-Ish), Army and Air Force attache to the Mongolian Embassy in the USSR, held a reception to mark the 65th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

The reception was attended by Army General YE.F. Ivanovskiy and Army Gen V.L. Govorov, USSR deputy defense ministers; Admiral A.I. Sorokin, first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate; and generals, admirals, and officers of the Soviet Armed Forces.

The guests included Army, Navy, and Air Force attaches to the embassies of a number of foreign states in the Soviet Union.

Ts. Gurbadam, Mongolian ambassador to the USSR, was present.

[TASS report] Ulaanbaatar, 17 Mar -- A ceremonial meeting of Mongolian People's Army servicemen and the capital's public has been held here to mark the 65th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army. It was attended by J. Batmonh, general secretary of the MPRP Central Committee and chairman of the Mongolian People's Great Hural Presidium, and other party and state leaders of the Republic, as well as a Soviet military delegation headed by Army General I.M. Tretyak which is here for the celebrations.

The 27th CPSU Congress, Mongolian Defense Minister Colonel General J. Yondon stressed in his report, convincingly confirmed the indissoluble link between socialism and peace. It elaborated the concept of the creation of an all-embracing system of international security, whose implementation requires a steady struggle against the nuclear threat. Mongolian People's Army servicemen will continue to increase vigilance and strengthen their close alliance with the fraternal armies of the other socialist countries.

On the same day J. Batmonh received the Soviet military delegation.

A wreath-laying ceremony was held at the burial vault of D. Suhbaatar and H. Choybalsan and at the monument to Soviet servicemen on (Zaysan) hill.

[Unattributed report] A Soviet military delegation headed by Army Gen I.M. Tretyak arrived in Ulaanbaatar 16 March at the invitation of Mongolian Defense Minister Col Gen J. Yondon. The Soviet military delegation will take part in the celebrations of the 65th anniversary of the Mongolian People's Army.

TASS CITES KARMAL REPORT TO PDPA CENTRAL COMMITTE

LD312007 Moscow TASS in English 1943 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Kabul March 31 TASS -- "In the history of human civilisation there are events from which the count of new time is started. And the historic 27th Congress of the CPSU has become such an event", it is said in a report made by the general secretary of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, Chairman of the Revolutionary Council of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan Babrak Karmal at a plenary meeting of the PDPA Central Committee. His report was published today.

"The main idea of the 27th CPSU Congress is to enter the 21st century without nuclear, chemical and other weapons of mass annihilation, to rid mankind of constant fear for its future, to switch to peaceful needs the tremendous sums now being squandered on the arms race. The new Soviet peace proposal to create an all-embracing system of international security sounded from the rostrum of the congress and its mainstays were outlined".

"It was with readiness that revolutionaries of the whole world responded to Mikhail Gorbachev's words that the countenance of the current century is determined by liberatory people's revolutions started by the Great October Revolution".

"The present plenary meeting", Babrak Karmal went on, "is a definite milestone. A tense year filled with tremendous events has become a part of history. A difficult year perhaps but also a most fruitful one. The development of the Armed Forces of a new type was continued. Their combat might was strengthened. The year will go down in history as the year of the Loya Jirga and the highest Jirga of the border tribes that fully and entirely supported our home and foreign policy. The country's social and economic development has gained pace".

Babrak Karmal called for more work in rural areas, for the switching of the centre of the party's entire political and socio-economic activity to the countryside, where the majority of the country's population lives and works.

"Socio-economic measures play a leading role in the implementation of the new approach along with political ones. The drafting of the "guidelines for the DRA's economic and social development in 1365-1369" was an event of key importance in the country's life. It is a top priority task of the entire party and the entire people to fulfil the five-year plan", Babrak Karmal said.

Then Babrak Karmal outlined the tasks now facing the country:

-- In the military field to increase the size of the Armed Forces to the planned figures and to complete in the main the protection of the borders. The Armed Forces should concentrate on the struggle against banditism inside the country, on ensuring the peaceful and safe work of Afghans. These are not only military but also political tasks. Their fulfilment is our main patriotic and internationalist duty;

-- In the field of the home policy it is necessary before the end of the year to complete the elections to the local bodies of power. The draft constitution of the DRA should be ready by then so that it could be approved after a nation-wide discussion;

-- In the field of foreign policy all efforts should be directed at the attainment of a political settlement around Afghanistan.

Pursuing its peaceloving policy, the DRA has exerted every effort for the attainment of a political settlement of the situation around Afghanistanby way of talks. Thanks to the DRA'S efforts, in particular the statement ot May 14, 1980 and the August 1981 statement, the road was opened for talks between the DRA and Pakistan. From the very beginning of the Geneva talks the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan displayed good will and political realism, and has done and is going everything possible for their successful advancement. But unfortunately Pakistan, which is experiencing pressure from American imperialism, hegemonism and reaction, is taking a negative stand and avoiding under various pretexts a direct constructive dialogue. That is why although there is certain progress at the talks they are advancing yet too slowly.

MOSCOW VIEWS U.S.-PAKISTANI MILITARY-ECONOMIC DEAL

LD201727 Moscow World Service in English 1531 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Commentary by (?Yuriy Kirichati)]

[Excerpts] A new United States-Pakistani military and economic deal worth $4.2 billion has been concluded in Islamabad. This exceeds by $1 billion the previous deal, the term of which expires in 1987. Nearly half the funds will be used to expand American military aid to Islamabad. Our observer (?Yuriy Kirichati) looks at the reasons behind Washington's encouragement of the Pakistani authorities' militaristic ambitions.

Both Washington and Islamabad speak of the need to bolster Pakistan's defenses in the light of events over Afghanistan. Today however, no special evidence is required to prove that a threat to Pakistan stems least of all from Afghanistan. Afghanistan's peace proposals to settle all controversial problems with Pakistan at the conference table are common knowledge. If there is a threat it confronts Afghanistan itself and it stems from Islamabad that has turned Pakistan's territory into a base for Afghan counterrevolutionary bands.

Pakistan's growing military potential has been causing legitimate concern in neighboring India too. Attention is focused there on the deployment of arms supplied to Pakistan by the United States and on the type of these weapons, including F-16 fighter bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons, sea-based Harpoon missiles -- in fact offensive types of arms. You may wonder what Islamabad needs them for if it has been talking exclusively about defense.

All this has been giving rise for concern in Pakistan itself. In his comments on the conclusion of the new military and economic deal Tikka Khan, the general secretary of the Pakistan People's Party which belongs to the Movement for the Restoration of Democracy, has said that by receiving American aid Pakistan has found itself firmly in United States' fetters. The leaders of the movement denounced the deal as a United States interference in Pakistan's internal affairs. In their opinion Islamabad's course toward further broadening military and political cooperation with the United States does not meet the country's national interests and creates a threat to its security. Pakistanis wonder what new concessions and services will Washington demand from Islamabad in exchange for billions of dollars.

PHILIPPINES STRIKERS DEMAND CLOSURE OF U.S. BASES

LD311352 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1030 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Sergey Pravdin commentary]

[Text] The strike by Philippine workers employed at the Clark Field and Subic Bay bases, the biggest American military bases in Southeast Asia and located on Philippine territory, has entered its 10th day. The guards at the bases opened fire today in an attempt to disperse the striking pickets. Sergey Pravin comments on this report:

The trade union, which unites in its ranks more than 20,000 people, announced the strike on 21 March, demanding the wage increases and improvement in social security. These demands were supported by the Philippine Trade Union Federation, the May Movement, which has turned to all progressive forces with an appeal to come to the side of the striking workers. The Philippine public organization Coalition Against Bases has already responded to this call. In a statement it is said that the Philippines are continously subjected to humiliation and insults and often even to violence by the American servicemen, who are violating, in a crude way, human rights, laws, and customs of the country. American soldiers who commit a crime on Philippine territory are practically unpunishable, because the matters are examined not by local courts but behind barbed wire of American military bases. Since the start of the strike there has already been a clash between the pickets and the American soldiers, who are protecting the strike-breakers. At the same time, according to the new agencies' reports, there were casulaties on both sides. According to the reports from Manila, the guards were shooting in the air today. However, during the clashes between the strikers and soldiers, several people were again injured. As UPI emphasizes, the present strike is the biggest in the history of the trade union of workers employed at the American base.

The agency notes that the tense situation has reached its limit. This is also caused by the fact that after the flight of former President Marcos to the Hawaiian Islands, and coming to power of the opposition forces government headed by President Aquino, the movement for elimination of the Pentagon's bases has intensified sharply in the Philippines. President Aquino, in a meeting yesterday with New Zealand Prime Minister Lange, who arrived in Philippines on an official visit, recalled that the period of validity of the present American-Philippine agreement on bases is to expire in 1991. Aquino stressed that the fate of this agreement is yet to be examined by her government. The Philippine public demands elimination of all the Pentagon's bases now.

PROSPECT FOR CHANGE IN PHILIPPINES EXAMINED

PM271516 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 27 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Correspondent L. Kuznetsov dispatch: "Palace and Huts. The Philippine People Await Changes"]

[Text] Manila, March -- You would not recognize Malacanang Palace, which translated means "House of the Great Leader." It used to stand surrounded by soldiers saluting black limousines. Today there are crowds of people here, and water and fruit sellers have set themselves up along the iron fence. Turned into a "people's museum" by decision of the incumbent president, the palace has begun a new life.

Following the February events, when the new administration headed by Corazon Aquino acceded to power, changes have begun in the country. President C. Aquino has proclaimed an interim "constitution of freedom." The Philippine National Assembly (parliament) has been dissolved. The interim constitution pursues the aim of restoring legality, ensuring respect for citizens' rights, and helping to eliminate the abuses committed by the former administration. C. Aquino has pointed out that special attention will be devoted to creating democratic institutions.

While the interim constitution is in effect, the head of state will be vested with all executive and legislative power. The state apparatus is being reorganized. Some ministries have been abolished, and new ones created. Only two members of the old cabinet have kept their posts. Many city mayors and governors have been replaced temporarily by officials acting for them (pending elections to the local organs of power). Reshuffles are also being carried out in the Armed Forces. While welcoming the intention to improve the Army by dismissing generals and officers who have compromised themselves, at the same time the public wants the Armed Forces to stop acting as a tool for crushing internal discontent.

Naturally, the measures being taken by the new leadership have their supporters and their opponents. Many of the present administration's measures are meeting with covert resistance. However, the general political climate is conducive to implementing changes aimed at improving the situation in the country.

The new leadership has inherited a heavy legacy. There is, above all, the unresolved agrarian question -- large landowners and foreign companies are driving peasants from the land and mercilessly exploiting them. Protests are crushed with the help of the planters' and the multinational corporations' private armies.

The foreign debt of $26 billion remains a heavy burden. Meanwhile, the need for financial assets has naturally not diminished. They hope to satisfy it partly out of the assets which were illegally misappropriated by way of bribes, embezzlement of public funds, and all kinds of machinations and taken abroad by a number of top figures in the old administration and by entrepreneurs. Therefore, the announcement of a struggle against corruption has elicited support here.

Many other questions are also being placed at the center of attention. What, for example, is to be done with the "white elephants"? This is what the Filipinos call the prestige buildings like the luxurious palace built to receive high-level guests and which senselessly devours vast funds which could have been used to build housing for the homeless. According to data reported by the newspapers, 7 out of every 10 Filipinos live below the poverty line.

Foreign policy questions occupy a prominent place. Of course, as (K.D. Lapus), professor of international relations at the University of Santo Tomas, said in conversation with your correspondent, the "American dimension" in Manila's international course will remain prevalent. However, many people in the Philippines favor abandoning the one-sided orientation toward the West and developing relations with the socialist countries. It is hard to disregard these sentiments.

Diplomats representing the ASEAN countries (the Philippines is a member of this grouping) in Manila have welcomed the government's plans to strengthen ties within the association and to solve its economic difficulties to some extent not with IMF subsidies but by means of the unutilized reserves that lie in collaboration and cooperation within the ASEAN framework. Deputy Foreign Minister (L. Shahani) has declared that "President C. Aquino's new government intends to review the policy on the question of keeping nuclear weapons at U.S. bases in the Philippines and the presence of ships with nuclear weapons on board in the region." Naturally, people here are wondering what lies behind these words.

A few days ago the first tour of the presidential palace took place, and the tickets were distributed, above all, in the capital's working class districts. After the people had left the "House of the Great Leader," I talked with the guide of one of the groups -- Joselita Benitez, a student at Manila College:

"My group included laundresses, women street cleaners, and fishermen," J. Benitez said. "Of course, they were astounded at the richness of the living quarters, the gold and the diamonds. For all this luxury was built on their suffering and poverty and on their exploitation. A most vivid example of injustice!"

From the palace the people returned to their huts. They believe and hope that there will be positive changes and that the promises to improve their lives will be fulfilled this time.

RYZHKOV LEADS DELEGATION TO BULGARIAN CONGRESS

Departure From Moscow

LD010837 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] At the invitation of the Bulgarian Communist Party [BCP] Central Committee, a delegation of the CPSU led by Comrade Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, left Moscow for Sofia today to take part in the work of the 13th BCP congress.

The delegation comprises Comrade Razumovskiy, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Gerasimov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Leningrad Obkom; Comrade Gromova, member of the CPSU Central Committee and milking-machine operator at the Kommunarka breeding sovkhoz in Leninskiy Rayon, Moscow Oblast; and Comrade Grekov, member of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR ambassador to Bulgaria.

The delegation was seen off at the airport by Comrade Zaykov, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrade Medvedev, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; Comrades Bugayev and Smirtyukov, members of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials. Radonov, interim charge d'affaires of the People's Republic of Bulgaria in the USSR was also in the send-off party.

Arrival in Sofia

LD011037 Moscow TASS in English 1013 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia, April 1 TASS -- A CPSU delegation, led by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, arrived in Sofia today to attend the 13th Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party, at the invitation of its Central Committee.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES SFRY KOSOVO DELEGATION

LD312110 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1900 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, today received a delegation of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo, headed by Nedjo Borkovic, president of the Executive Council of the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo. During the talks which took part in a warm and friendly atmosphere, they discussed questions of further developing economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the Soviet Union and the SFRY and, among other things, the development of fraternal relations between the Dagestan ASSR and the Socialist Autonomous Province of Kosovo.

The talks were attended by Vladimir Vinogradov, RSFSR minister of foreign affairs; (Dzhavit Dolebkhanov), first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Dagestan SSR; as well as by Milojko Drulovic, SFRY ambassador to the Soviet Union.

MARCHUK, ROMANIA'S URSA DISCUSS SCIENTIFIC TIES

AU281950 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1808 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow, 28/3/1986 -- Ion Ursu, first deputy chairman of the National Council for Science and Technology, had an interview with G.I. Marchuk, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, chairman of the USSR State Committee on Science and Technology, in Moscow, on March 28.

Messages were exchanged on the occasion between Academician Elena Ceausescu, D. Sc., first deputy prime minister, chairman of the National Council for Science and Education of Romania, and G.I. Marchuk.

During the meeting the stage and results of the Romanian-Soviet technologic and scientific collaboration were analyzed and the directions for the further development and deepening of the collaboration in this domain, were established in harmony with the understandings reached at the meetings between Nicolae Ceausescu and Mikhail Gorbachev.

Stress was laid on the need for concentrating the two parties' efforts on accomplishing by cooperation the research-development targets of the program of collaboration between Romania and the Soviet Union in 1986-1990, primarily in domains related to the development of the base of raw materials, fuels and energy, the evolving of new technologies.

SHULTZ ADMITS DIFFERENCES IN U.S., ITALY LIBYAN STANCES

LD311533 Moscow TASS in English 1525 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Rome March 31 TASS -- U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, now on a tour of a number of West European countries, has again lashed out Libya.

Speaking at a press conference here, he tried in every way to whitewash the aims of the recent exercises of the U.S. Sixth Fleet in the Mediterranean. George Shultz' negotiations with President of Italy Francesco Cossiga, Chairman of the Council of Ministers Bettino Craxi, and Foreign Minister Giulio Andreotti, he said, centered on questions linked with the exercises off Libyan shores.

George Shultz was compelled to admit that there are differences between the United States and Italy in the attitude to that issue. Italy is known to have criticized Washington's anti-Libyan actions. Though the secretary of state tried to diminish the significance of these differences, in a private talk he more bluntly expressed irritation at the Italian Government's stand, as is noted by REUTER news agency with reference to American officials.

SOVIET OFFICIAL DISCUSSES REPERCUSSIONS OF FRG SDI TIES

LD011040 Hamburg DPA in German 1004 GMT 1 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow, 1 Apr (DPA/VWD) -- The SDI contracts concluded between the Federal Republic and the United States will probably not strain the forthcoming session of the German-Soviet Economic Commission. Georgiy Korniyenko, USSR first deputy foreign minister, stressed at a press conference in Moscow today that the concluding of the SDI contracts is not an economic topic and would hardly be raised in such a context. However, this set of treaties will "inevitably" affect the condition of German-Soviet relations, Korniyenko said.

The commission is to meet in the Soviet capital on Thursday and Friday [6-7 April]. The Bonn delegation will be headed by Economics Minister Martin Bangemann. Subjects to be discussed at the session include the consumer goods and services sectors.

FRG BREACHES W. BERLIN STATUS TO SIGN SDI ACCORD

LD281345 Moscow in English to North America 0001 GMT 28 Mar 86

[From "The Round-up of Political Events" program]

[Text] After prolonged negotiations the United States and Federal Germany have signed an accord in Bonn's participation in the "star wars" program. Here are some details:

One of the stumbling blocks which was finally overcome was the participation of West Berlin firms in the American program. West Berlin is supposed to be a demilitarized city, and in line with the allied regulations the city's status has to be observed by the United States, Britain and France. But on Bonn's insistence the status will be breached, providing all of us with a fresh example of how Western commitments and obligations under international accords are easily violated. Federal Germany has become the second West European nation after Britain to participate in the "star wars" program, a fact which raises a number of crucial questions.

Number 1: So-called Western democracies with their much touted concern for such values as human rights, dignity, freedom and what-not are in the forefront of the ugly and despicable business of making more and more new weapons. The most vulgar argument heard from all those people, who claim they're not modern barbarians but well-dressed, well-educated and good-mannered executives, managers and politicians, is that progress will stop and humanity will suffer a terrible setback if Moscow and those so-called nuts from antiwar movements have their way and there is nobody to develop, build and deploy space weapons.

Number 2: Some smart people in Washington who claim that star wars is fundamental research don't believe a word of what they're saying. Who will draw the line between research, laboratory and field testing? Who is going to tell all those firms, companies and corporations when to stop and that enough is enough? And how serious is it to claim that the military-industrial complex will voluntarily part with multibillion dollar profits offered by new arms for the sake of honoring for instance the Soviet-American ABM Treaty of 1972, which is seen in Washington as a sheet of paper and a barrier to the further escalation of the arms race?

Number 3: It is hardly a coincidence that those who oppose banning nuclear tests are the most ardent supporters of star wars. In the United States, Great Britain and Federal Germany, top government officials are well aware that such a ban will not lead to any of those apocalyptic scenarios of the West falling apart under a conventional Soviet onslaught that they've been frightening their people with. In Washington, London and Bonn they have nothing else to offer to the public as a justification for the on-going nuclear madness. According to reports from Washington, the U.S.-West German accord on star wars was expected to be signed at a low-key private ceremony. Why be so bashful if space weapons are such a boon to humanity?

U.S. REPORTEDLY STOCKPILING PERSHING II'S IN FRG

LD291359 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0830 GMT 29 Mar 86

[Rudolf Kolchanov commentary]

[Text] The West German Magazine DER SPIEGEL, citing U.S. sources, reports that not 108 Pershing II missiles -- as was agreed upon in the December 1979 NATO decision -- but 156 such first-strike nuclear missiles have already been sited [razmeshcheno] on FRG territory. International affairs journalist Rudolf Kolchanov is at the microphone:

In this case one simply cannot but repeat the well-known dictum that sooner or later every secret comes out. True, the first reports to the effect that the United States intended to introduce intermediate-range nuclear missiles into the FRG in a larger quantity than was officially announced appeared some 4 years ago. At first, news surfaced in the Western press that the Pentagon had ordered from military concerns not 108 Pershing II's but some 400. For whom were they earmarked? The reply to this question was given then by the PARLAMENTARISCH POLITISCHE PRESSEDIENST, the press bulletin of the Social Democratic Party of Germany. It reported that the entire new nuclear missile arsenal would be deployed [dislotsirovan] on FRG territory.

As facts testify, these predictions are being realized. At the U.S. Fort Sill military base in Oklahoma State, 30 more complete Pershing II's are ready for dispatch beyond the ocean. They can at any moment join the missiles which have already been concealed [zatailis] in West Germany. Combined with the nuclear weapons previously imported into the FRG, the new intermediate-range missiles make up an immense stockpile of mass destruction weapons.

But Washington even considers this to insufficient: John Wickham, U.S. Army chief of staff, stated that the number of missiles sited [razmeshchennyye] on FRG territory is far lower than the computed level of requirement.

Four years ago Washington publicly assured the Bonn chancellor that additional nuclear armaments for West Germany would be limited, as regards Pershing II's, to 108 units. Today it is a question of 400. How many will it be tomorrow and the day after tomorrow?

GENRI COMMENTS ON USSR-FRG RELATIONS

PM261023 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 23 Mar 86 First Edition p 5

[Ernst Genri article under the rubric "Writer's Notes": "Which Road Into the 21st Century?"; a postscript states: "I wrote this article at the suggestion of FRANKFURTER RUNDSCHAU, one of the leading FRG bourgeois newspapers. The article was not printed"]

[Excerpt] What is needed today, apart from a political agreement at summit level, to achieve genuine mutual understanding between USSR and FRG citizens?

A very great deal. In these relations the people on the banks of the Rhine need, above all, to employ the practical realism that is usually characteristic of them. What is needed is the final rejection of any form of revanchism and readiness to develop as widely as possible mutually advantageous trade with the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries.

Of course, the awful traces of the war years have not yet been entirely effaced from our peoples' consciousness. But for more than 40 years we have managed to avoid new bloodshed in Europe. This alone is a fact of truly immense importance. Now that the "star wars" idea is a monstrous glimmer on the horizon, the Europeans have and will have no other way out than to resolutely take the road of peace.

It is precisely the former enemies who can set an example by marching shoulder to shoulder toward peace. Europe is our common home! Neither we nor they have the right to allow anyone to set fire to it. This is the chief task.

It is clear that a very great deal still lies ahead in this painstaking work.

Try to understand us. We do not wish the West Germans ill. We know that things were extremely difficult for many of them under the fascists. But we cannot forget what they did in our country during the war years, how many people we lost, and how much suffering we endured at that time.

How can such things be forgotten?! That was the lowest point in the entire history of Russian-German relations. But we are prepared to maintain normal, good-neighborly relations between our states.

We thought that the foundations for such relations were laid by the USSR's treaty with the FRG of 12 August 1970. We believed that that treaty would draw a line under the terrible past.

But what has happened?

During the more than 15 years since then FRG policy toward us has been directed back toward Adenauer rather than forward to sincere cooperation.

We see (and our eyes became particularly sharp-sighted after 1941) that your Armed Forces are growing not day by day but hour by hour, that U.S. nuclear missiles have been deployed on your land not far from our borders, and that your revanchists are making more noise now than they have done for a long time.

What do you think Soviet people say on hearing about all this? Do they like to admit the thought that everything might be starting all over again with you, as in the thirties and forties? We have had enough of two world wars.

Looking in the direction of the figures at the helm on the Rhine, we want to know for sure: Do they really advocate lasting, unbreakable peace? Or do they advocate some two-faced game whose ultimate aim is the same old revenge? We have a right to expect an honest, direct answer.

USSR ROME EMBASSY STATEMENT ON ITALY'S SDI ROLE

LD311529 Moscow TASS in English 1621 GMT 31 Mar 86

["Soviet Embassy Statement" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] [no dateline as received] -- The USSR Embassy in Rome made a statement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Italy over the decision taken by the Italian Government to allow Italian companies to participate in the implementation of the SDI program. This step, the statement says, can only be viewed as the gradual dragging of Italy into the implementation of the U.S. plans to militarize outer space. The Italian Government cannot help realizing that the fulfilment of these plans, aimed at breaking the existing military-strategic parity and achieving military superiority over the USSR, is bound to project the arms race into space and to destabilize the strategic situation, and also that it contradicts the provisions of the ABM Treaty concluded in prepetuity [as received] in 1972 and constituting the foundation of the process of the limitation and reduction of nuclear armaments.

The above-stated actions by the Italian Government obviously run counter to its repeated assurances about readiness to promote the ending of the arms race, the lowering of the level of military confrontation in the world and in Europe, and to facilitate the successful progress and positive completion of the Soviet-American talks in Geneva on nuclear and space arms. Hardly do they tally also with the Italian Government's statement in favour of strictt observance of the 1972 ABM Treaty. The present crucial situation in the world, as it was stressed in the statement, calls for urgent efforts to prevent the spreading of the arms race to outer space and curb it on earth, and each country should display a heightened sense of responsibility as regards its practical steps and decisions.

The hope was expressed that the Italian Government would display a proper attitude to this statement and draw conclusions really testifying to Italy's adherence to the cause of limiting and reducing nuclear arms and preventing an arms race in outer space. Such a position would fully accord with the vital interests of all states in Europe, Italy included.

TASS REPORTS SOVIET-ALGERIAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE

LD281518 Moscow TASS in English 1454 GMT 28 Mar 86

["Joint Soviet-Algerian Communique" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow March 28 TASS -- Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic and secretary-general of the Algerian National Liberation Front (FLN) Party, was in the USSR on an official friendly visit from March 25 to 28, 1986, at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and the Soviet Government.

During the visit to the USSR, the esteemed Algerian guest and the persons who accompanied him enjoyed cordial friendly reception and warm hospitality which reflected the high level of close friendship between the two states.

Chadli Bendjedid laid wreaths to the V.I. Lenin Mausoleum and to the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier near the Kremlin Wall.

M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria and secretary-general of the FLN Party, had a private meeting that was held in a friendly atmosphere.

The Soviet-Algerian talks held during the visit made it possible to have a fruitful exchange of views on questions of developing bilateral cooperation and on a broad range of international problems of mutual interest.

The following officials took part in the talks: From the Soviet side -- A.A. Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; E.A. Shevardnadze, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and foreign minister of the USSR; S.L. Sokolov, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and minister of defense of the USSR; A.F. Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee of the USSR for Foreign Economic Relations. Present at the talks also were -- K.N. Brutents, deputy head of the International Department of the CPSU Central Committee; L.F. Ilichev, deputy foreign minister of the USSR; A.A. Shvedov, head of the First African Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry; V.N. Taratuta, the USSR's ambassador to the Algerian People's Democratic Republic.

The following Algerian officials took part in the talks: Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, member of the FLN Political Bureau and foreign minister; Larbi Belkheir, director of the President's Office; Belkacem Nabi, minister of energy, chemical and petrochemical industries; Abdelaziz Kehllaf, minister of finance; Abderrazak Bouhara, in charge of international ties of the Permanent Secretariat of the FLN Central Committee; Abdel Madjid Alahoum, Algeria's ambassador to the USSR; General Kamel Abderrahim, deputy chief-of-staff of the National People's Army; Abdelaziz Ziari, chairman of the Commission of the National Popular Assembly on education, culture and social matters; Abdelkader Benkaci, head of the Department for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of the President's Chancellery; Hocine Meghar, director of the Department for Socialist Countries of Europe at the Foreign Ministry of Algeria; Ahmed Attaf, director of the Department for International Political Problems at the Foreign Ministry of Algeria; M'hamed Achache, director of the Department for International Economic Problems at the Foreign Ministry of Algeria.

The participants in the talks informed each other of economic, social and cultural achievements by their countries, made an in-depth analysis of the present state of bilateral relations and prospects for their further invigoration, and examined the current international situation.

The Soviet side described the results of the work of the 27th CPSU Congress which endorsed the party's course towards accelerating the country's social and economic development, defined the party's foreign policy strategy, adopted a new edition of the CPSU Programme, sanctioned changes and social development for 1986-1990 and the period ending in 2000.

The Algerian side described the nationwide discussion of the enriched text of the National Charter of Algeria, which ended with extensive approval of the document, and the new vistas that opened in this connection for continuing the independent national development and building socialism in Algeria.

Both sides examined the present state and prospects of developing relations between the Soviet Union and Algeria in various spheres and expressed their satisfaction with the attained level of political and interaction, as well as cooperation in the economic, scientific, cultural and other spheres.

They highly assessed the fruitful relationship between the CPSU and the National Liberation Front Party which, specifically, find manifestation in the exchange of high-level delegations, development of interparty ties on a planned basis, and exchanges of information on their activity. Ties between the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the National People's Assembly of Algeria were just as highly assessed.

The sides stressed the great importance of regular contacts at all levels and in all areas with a view to strengthening friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Algerian peoples.

Satisfaction was stated with the high level of economic, scientific and technical ties between the two countries, and the mutual aspiration was expressed to impart to them as fresh impetus by way of better use of their economic potentialities. The sides agreed to intensify the long-term cooperation in the areas which correspond to the priority directions of their development plans.

During the profound exchange of views on the causes underlying the dangerous heightening of the present-day international political and economic situation, the sides stated that the particular difficulties currently facing the world are due to imperialism's policy of colonialism, neocolonialism, expansionism, unrestricted arms race, its policy directed at deepening the crisis in international economic relations and increasing the number of seats of tension in various parts of the world. They expressed profound concern over the developments, their negative consequences for the cause of peace, security amd universal development.

The sides reaffirmed the conviction that a reliable improvement in the international climate may occur only through curbing the arms race and preventing its spread to outer space, ensuring the peoples' right to decide by themselves their destiny, restructuring and democraticzing international relations.

The Soviet side stressed that the struggle against the nuclear menance, the arms race, for the preservation and consolidation of universal peace remains the major direction in the USSR's activity in the world arena. A concrete programme of action to attain these objectives was set forth in the January 15, 1986 statement by general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and confirmed at the 27th Party Congress. The congress also approved the foundations for an all-embracing system of world security.

They cover all major spheres of international life: military, political, economic and humanitarian. The implementation of the advanced foundations will help ensure a free, independent and secure development of all countries and peoples on earth and turn the course of world developments on the whole towards detente and to change substantially the face of today's world.

The Algerian side, proceeding from the provisions of the National Charter of Algeria and Algeria's membership in the Non-Aligned Movement, set fourth its assessment of the international situation and the measures which, in its view, should be undertaken to improve it. The Algerian side set out in this connection, specifically, its position on disarmament and world security problems in accordance with the National Charter and Algeria's activity within the Non-Aligned Movement, directed at achieving general and complete disarmament and establishing a system of international collective security.

Both sides highly assessed the constructive efforts they are undertaking with a view to ensuring universal peace.

They noted in this context the great importance of the fresh efforts with a view to resolving the complex of international problems by way of negotiations and stressed the urgent need for actions to set up in the future a comprehensive system of security, pointing to the interrelationship between disarmament and development.

They believe that the seats of tension existing in various parts of the world have emerged as a result of the denial of the peoples' right to self-determination, to a free choice of the political system and the path of economic and social development. Special attention was given to the situation in the Middle East, southern Africa, Maghreb, Central America and other parts of the world, which gives rise to concern.

On considering the developments in the Middle East, both sides pointed out that Israel, enjoying support of its strategic allies -- the United States and other forces hostile to the interests and legitimate rights of the Arab peoples and countries -- is responsible for the dangerous worsening of the situation in the region due to Israel's continuing aggressive machinations, expansionism, seizure of Arab territories, claims to establishing there its domination, and denying the Palestinian people their inalienable national rights.

They reiterated the need for a fair, lasting comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis, the achievement of which should include as the central problem the solution of the Palestinian issue. Proceeding from this premise, they reaffirmed their conviction that lasting peace in the Middle East is impossible to secure by way of separate agreements, and denounced in this connection any attempts to look for pseudo-solutions on this basis.

Both sides reaffirmed their support for the PLO -- the sole legitimate and authentic representative of the Palestinian people. They also believe that meeting their national aspirations calls for the exercise of the people's right to self-determination and to the establishment of an independent, sovereign Palestinian state of their own.

The USSR and Algeria demanded total and unconditional liberation of all Israeli-occupied Arab territories.

They back the struggle of Lebanon's patriotic forces for its total liberation and demand an immediate withdrawal of all Israeli military units from Lebanese territory. They are convinced that it is possible to settle Lebanon's internal problems only by peaceful means on the basis of national consent from the Lebanese themselves while preserving that country's unity, sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Both sides stressed that an international conference on the Middle East under the United Nations' auspices remains an indispensable condition for a fair, lasting and comprehensive settlement of the Middle East crisis.

They also confirmed the need for the PLO's full and equitable participation in all negotiations on such a settlement as the sole representative of the Palestinian people expressing their legitimate national aspirations.

On considering all aspects of the situation in Africa, both sides spoke in favor of strict respect for independence, sovereignty and the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of African states, and in favor of the exercise by all peoples on the continent, who are still under colonial and racial opressions, of their right to independence.

Having expressed full support for the just struggle of the African peoples for achieving and strengthening national independence, the Soviet Union and Algeria highly assessed the OAU's growing positive role in international relations, and expressed satisfaction with its activity to achieve the continent's complete liberation, its decisions directed at Africa's economic development, and its views on problems of peace, security and disarmament.

Having reaffirmed their adherence to the idea of turning that continent into a nuclear-free zone, they denounced the nuclear ambitions of the Pretoria regime which is pursuing aggressive goals.

The Soviet Union and Algeria resolutely denouce South Africa's apartheid regime which, relying on overt backing from the imperialist accomplices, is pursuing a policy of colonial and racial oppression, aggression and intimidation with regard to the "Frontline" states with a view to establishing its domination in the region, as well as the machinations directed at a neocolonialist solution to the southern African problems.

Both sides reaffirmed their solidarity with and support for SWAPO and the ANC in their struggle for the exercise of the national rights of the peoples of South Africa and Namibia, as well as the "Frontline" states in their opposition to the racist Pretoria regime and firm determination to fulfil the task of liberating the south of the African Continent.

Both sides called on the world community to adopt urgent measures for the unconditional granting of independence to Namibia on the basis of full and precise observance of resolutions of the U.N. Security Council, including Resolution 435. They also called on the world community to work resolutely so as to speed up the dismantling of the apartheid regime by applying mandatory and comprehensive sanctions, which would be an effective contribution to the South African people's struggle for the exercise of their national rights in their homeland. Both sides expressed support for the forthcoming international conference on the question of sanctions against South Africa and agreed to facilitate the attainment of its objectives.

The sides expressed concern over the continuing conflict in the Western Sahara, and reaffirmed their support for Resolution 40/50 of the U.N. General Assembly, which provides a relevant basis for a political settlement of the conflict.

On considering the situation in the Mediterranean, both sides noted the dangerous developments in that region, and reaffirmed their adherence to the idea of turning it into a zone of peace and cooperation.

They resolutely denounce the threats and provocations against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the introduction of economic and trade sanctions against it, which represent a veritable economic aggression against a sovereign state. The sides denounced the United States' act of aggression against the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. They stressed that actions of this kind run counter to the Charter of the United Nations and the generally accepted norms of international law, and pose a serious threat not only to the situation in the Mediterranean, but also to peace and security worldwide.

Recalling the Israeli aggression in Tunisia and realizing the gravity of aggression against Libya, the sides observed that the latest developments attest to the continued collusion organized against the Arab peoples of Maghreb and the Middle East. They demanded that an end be put immediately to all manifestations of threats, aggression and intimidation with regard to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, and expressed their firm solidarity with the Libyan people in this difficult moment for them.

The sides pointed to the inseparable link between security in the Mediterranean and security in Europe, and stressed the need for taking into account the legitimate interests of countries in the southern Mediterranean in what concerns security, stability and cooperation in the Mediterranean in accordance with the Helsinki Final Act.

The participants in the talks analyzed with a sense of profound concern the dangerous escalation of the conflict between Iraq and Iran, which is inflicting heavy damage to the development of the two countries and to the progress of their peoples, as well as to stability and security in the region. They urgently call for the termination of the conflict and for a peaceful settlement of all differences between those two countries on the basis of respect for their territorial integrity and recognition of the existing borders between them.

On considering the situation in Central America, the sides reaffirmed their commitment to the principles of respect for the choice of political, economic and social systems by the peoples in the region, non-interference in the internal affairs of the states in that area, and a peaceful solution of the outstanding problems there by way of negotiations. They denounced the use of military or any other pressure, intimidation or sanctions as an inadmissible encroachment on free and independent choice of the development path of the peoples and states in Central America.

The sides backed the constructive efforts by Latin American states directed at attaining a peaceful, fair and lasting settlement in that region and the restoration there of security and stability.

The Soviet Union and Algeria favour the solution of problems existing in South-East Asia by policial means through establishing a fruitful dialogue between states situated there, and on the basis of respect for their independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, consolidating mutual trust and security, non-interference in each other's internal affairs. Both sides back the constructive efforts that are being undertaken by the South-East Asian countries with a view to finding a political settlement to the outstanding problems and establishing lasting peace and stability in that region.

Both sides examined the international economic situation, and expressed profound alarm over its continued deterioration.

They agreed that it is necessary to carry out immediate coordinated actions with a view to eliminating the instability and uncertainty which now characterize the international economic situation, and restructuring international economic relations and establishing a new just international economic order.

The Soviet side informed the Algerian side about its proposal to convene in the future a world congress on problems of economic security. The Algerian side showed interest in the proposal.

Both sides came out in favour of deblocking such initiatives advanced by developing countries as holding "global talks" within the U.N. framework on world economic problems, convening an international monetary and financial conference, and others.

They reaffirmed their determination to continue the efforts with a view to implementing the necessary restructuring of international economic relations on the basis of justice, equality and mutual interest.

Taking into account the special complexity and acuity of Africa's economic problems, they stressed the need for large-scale international efforts with a view to overcoming the economic difficulties facing the African countries. Both sides wished that the special session of the U.N. General Assembly on the critical economic situation in Africa facilitate the economic upsurge on the African Continent. While discussing the questions of the further development of relations between the USSR and Algeria, the sides observed that the consolidation and deepening of mutually beneficial cooperation between them on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual respect meet the interests of the Soviet and Algerian peoples, the cause of peace and progress. The mutual desire to develop cooperation on a long-term basis was expressed.

The following joint Soviet-Algerian documents were signed:

1. Long-term programme of economic, trade, scientific and technical cooperation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Algerian People's Democratic Republic.

2. Soviet-Algerian protocol on consultations.

3. Agreement between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Algerian People's Democratic Republic on economic and technical cooperation.

The sides expressed profound satisfaction with the positive results of the official friendly visit to the USSR by Chadli Bendjedid, president of Algeria and secretary-general of the FLN Party, which imparted a fresh impetus to the relations of traditional friendship and cooperation between the peoples of the two countries.

The Algerian president expressed sincere gratitude for the warm reception accorded in the Soviet Union to him and the persons who accompanied him.

Chadli Bendjedid invited M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, to make an official friendly visit to Algeria. The invitation was accepted with satisfaction. The dates of the visit will be agreed upon later through diplomatic channels.

REPORT ON SUPREME SOVIET DELEGATION EGYPTIAN VISIT

PM271443 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 27 Mar 86 Morning Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Visit Over"]

[Text] Cairo, 26 Mar -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation comprising P.G. Gilashvili, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium (delegation head), and USSR Supreme Soviet deputies S.A. Losev, A.I. Mayorets, N.I. Popov, and D. Yusupov has concluded its official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt [ARE].

The delegation was received by Egyptian President H. Mubarak. The head of the Soviet delegation conveyed a message to him from the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium. The sincere desire of both sides to develop good relations was noted during the meeting.

Talks were held with a delegation of the Egyptian People's Assembly headed by R. al-Mahjub, its president. The Soviet parliamentarians also had meetings with Egyptian Prime Minister 'A. Lufti and his deputies -- Y. Wali, minister of agriculture and general secretary of the ruling National Democratic Party of the ARE, and 'I. 'Abd al-Majid, the country's foreign minister -- and with S. 'Abd al-Hakim, chairman of the Consultative Council.

The delegation toured the country, familiarized itself with the life and labor of the Egyptian people, and visited the Aswan High Dam and hydroelectric power station constructed with the Soviet Union's technical and economic assistance and the historical monuments of Aswan and Luxor.

During the meetings and talks, which were held in a friendly atmosphere, the sides discussed questions connected with the activity of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the ARE People's Assembly and advocated the further development of contacts between the two countries' legislative organs. They emphasized that interparliamentary ties make a useful contribution to the cause of strengthening trust and mutual understanding between the Soviet and Egyptian peoples.

The Soviet parliamentarians informed the Egyptian side about the results of the historic 27th CPSU Congress, which outlined a strategy for accelerating Soviet society's further development and qualtiatively improving all aspects of its life. The documents approved by the congress and the speech delivered there by M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, in fact mark the start of a new stage in implementing a Leninist foreign policy aimed at delivering mankind from the threat of a global nuclear catastrophe and achieving a drastic breakthrough in international affairs in the interests of ensuring peaceful and equitable conditions for the development of all peoples and states.

The Egyptian side showed interest in the USSR's constructive proposals for the stage-by-stage, consistent elimination of nuclear weapons throughout the world, which were set forth in M.S. Gorbachev's 15 January 1986 statement and underwent further development in the 27th CPSU Congress decisions. The opinion was voiced that the implementation of the impressive plans to accelerate the USSR's socioeconomic development is having a positive effect on increasing the Soviet Union's prestige in the international arena. During discussion of the situation in the Near East concern was voiced at the dangerous situation which is persisting there as a consequence of Israel's continuing aggression against the Arabs. The Soviet Union confirmed its conviction that a comprehensive and just settlement in the Near East can be achieved with the help of collective actions, within the framework of an international conference on the Near East with the participation of all interested sides, including the PLO -- the sole legitimate representative of the Arab Palestinian people.

In the course of discussing bilateral relations between the USSR and the ARE, the sides confirmed their desire to further develop cooperation in various spheres on the basis of the principles of equal rights, mutual advantage, and noninterference in other states' internal affairs.

The USSR and Egyptian parliamentarians voiced confidence that the exchange of opinions that took place during the Soviet delegation's visit will make a positive contribution to the cause of arranging a constructive political dialogue between the USSR and Egypt.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation expressed cordial gratitude for the hospitality shown it during its stay in the ARE. Yesterday the delegation left for home. The guests from the USSR were seen off at Cario International Airport by R. al-Mahjub; M. 'Abdallah, chairman of the Egyptian People's Assembly Foreign Affiars Commission; and other officials. The send off party included A.M. Belonogov, USSR ambassador to Egypt.

On 26 March the delegation returned to Moscow. It was met at the airport by A.E. Voss, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of Nationalities; other officials; and S.H. Basyuni, Egyptian ambassador to the USSR.

ARKHIPOV MEETS WITH EGYPTIAN ECONOMICS MINISTER

LD271853 Moscow TASS in English 1800 GMT 27 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 27 TASS -- Ivan Arkihpov, a first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, today received Sultan Abu 'Ali, minister of economics and foreign trade of the Arab Republic of Egypt, and had a conversation with him on issues of promoting trade and economic cooperation. Taking part in the conversation also were Viktor Dementsev, chairman of the Board of the State Bank of the USSR, and Salah al-Din Hasan Basyuni, Egypt's ambassador to the USSR.

MEDITERRANEAN GROUP PRAISES SOVIET INITIATIVE

LD310837 Moscow TASS in English 0806 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Tripoli March 21 TASS -- TASS corresdpondent Georgiy Shelenkov reports:

The Organisation of Socialist and Progressive Parties of Mediterranean Countries welcomes the Soviet proposals aimed at ensuring peace and security in the Mediterranean, said Ahmed Shahati, general secretary of that organisation, deputy chairman of the Libyan-Soviet Friendship Society.

In a TASS interview he noted the timeliness of the Soviet proposals which were set forth forth by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev at a time when American military unleashed an unprovoked aggression against sovereign Libya. A new manifestation of the U.S. Administration's "gunboat diplomacy" created a real threat to peace and security not only in the region but also in the whole world. Libya is not the only Mediterranean country to have become a target of U.S. imperialism's aggressive conspiracies, said Ahmed Shahati. The criminal deeds of American military in long-suffering Lebanon are still fresh in the memory of all. Any other people of our region, coming out against Washington's great power ambitions, might fall tomorrow victim to hegemonistic designs of the White House.

Therfore, we call upon all nations and progressive forces of the region to back the new peace initiative of the USSR and take concrete steps towards its materialisation, stressed the general secretary of the Organisation of Socialist and Progressive Parties of Mediterranean Countries.

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON VISIT BY MOZAMBIQUE'S MACHEL

Gromyko, Machel Begin Talks

LD311251 Moscow TASS in English 1150 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- Soviet-Mozambican talks were started in the Grand Kremlin Palace today. They are held by Andrey Gromyko, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee and president of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo [Mozambique Liberation Front] party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The Mozambican leader arrived in Moscow Sunday for a working friendly visit at the invitation of the Soviet leadership.

Ryzhkov, Machel Hold Talks

PM311821 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 1 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] A meeting took place in the Kremlin 31 March between Comrade Ryzhkov, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers; and Machel, chairman of the Frelimo and president of the People's Republic of the People's Republic of Mozambique, who is in the Soviet Union on a friendly working visit.

Taking part in the meeting were Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee and USSR minister of foreign affairs; Comrade Talyzin, candidate member of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; as well as Chissano, member of the Politburo of the Frelimo Central Committee and Mozamblique's minister of foreign affairs; and Machungo, member of the Politburo of the Frelimo Central Committee and minister of planning.

During the conversation, which passed in an atmosphere of friendship and mutual understanding, Nikolay Ivanovich Ryzhkov informed the Mozambican leader about the work being undertaken in the Soviet Union in accordance with the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress in implementing the strategic policy of accelerating the country's social and economic development, and in consolidating peace and international security.

Samora Machel in turn spoke about the measures for strengthening Mozambique's economy and defense capability which are being carried out by the country's government and Frelimo, at a time of incessant attempts by internal and external reaction to push the Mozambican people off the progressive path of development chosen by it.

Expressing satisfaction with the level of cooperation attained between the Soviet Union and Mozambique in various fields, the participants in the conversation devoted particular attention to questions relating to raising its efficiency, and mapped out a number of specific measures in this area.

Samora Machel highly appraised the assistance being rendered by the Soviet Union to Mozambique. On the Soviet side confirmation was given of its solidarity with People's Mozambique and its willingness to continue giving it support in the cause of consolidating the country's independence and security.

Also taking part in the talks were: On the Soviet side -- B.I. Aristov, minister of foreign trade; K.F. Katushev, chairman of the State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations; S.F. Akhromeyev, USSR first deputy minister of defense; L.F. Ilichev, USSR deputy minister of foreign affairs; and Yu.F. Sepelev, USSR ambassador to Mozambique.

On the Mozambique side -- A. Pangueme, secretary of the Frelimo Central Committee, deputy minister of national defense, and political commissar of the Armed Forces; Mozambique Ministers S. Vieira, A. Branco, and J. Dos Santos; H. Patricio, Mozambican ambassador to the USSR; and other officials.

International Topics Discussed

LD311849 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1730 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Soviet-Mozambican talks were held in the Kremlin today. Taking part on the Soviet side were: Comrade Gromyko, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, chairman of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet; Comrade Shevardnadze, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister for foreign affairs; Comrade Sokolov, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, USSR minister of defense; Comrade Dobrynin, secretary of the CPSU Central Committee; and other officials. Present on the Mozambican side were Machel, chairman of Frelimo, president of the People's Republic of Mozambique; and other members of the Mozambican delegation.

During the talks, which passed in a friendly atmosphere, the Soviet leaders informed the esteemed Mozambican guest about the main directions of the economic and social policy of the CPSU endorsed by the 27th party congress. The Mozambican side's attention was drawn to the CPSU's international activities in the conditions of the world situation, which has sharply deteriorated due to the militarist circles of imperialism. It was stressed that the struggle against the nuclear danger and the arms race, and for the preservation and strengthening of universal peace, is the pivot of the foreign policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state.

The historic importance of the Soviet program for nuclear disarmament, set forth in the 15 January 1986 statement by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, was pointed out. The implementation of this program would make it possible to halt the arms race on earth and prevent it spreading to space, and to transfer considerable funds to the needs of development and to elimination of hunger, illiteracy, poverty, and disease in the liberated countries.

Samora Machel reaffirmed Mozambique's support for the Soviet Union's foreign policy initiatives, the implementation of which would make it possible to radically improve the situation in the world. He stated that this applies primarily and completely to the Soviet program for nuclear disarmament set forth in the statement by the CPSU Central Committee's general secretary, and to the creation of an all-embracing system of international security.

At the present stage, the Soviet Union considers the need to strive for the immediate end to nuclear weapons tests as a matter of primary importance. The Mozambican side welcomed the Soviet Union's decision to refrain from staging nuclear explosions after 31 March, if the United States does not stage such explosions. It also had a positive attitude toward the Soviet proposal to hold a Soviet-U.S. summit meeting in the near future in Europe in order to reach agreement on stopping nuclear tests.

It was stated that the contribution of the People's Republic of Mozambique to the struggle against imperialism and racism and to the cause of guaranteeing universal peace and international security is valued in the Soviet Union.

During examination of the situation in southern Africa, it was stressed that the responsibility for the crisis situation there lies first and foremost with the Pretoria regime. It was noted that the policy of complicity and appeasement of the Republic of South Africa, conducted by Western countries, first and foremost the United States, is encouraging the racists to take new aggressive actions against independent African states and new bloody repressions against the anti-apartheid fighters.

Invariable solidarity with Mozambique and Angola, which are victims of aggression on the part of the forces of imperialism and racism -- which are striving to force these independent countries to turn away from the path of development they have chosen -- was expressed by the Soviet side.

Soviet-Mozambican bilateral relations were discussed. The sides expressed satisfaction with the level of friendly cooperation reached between the CPSU and Frelimo, and between the Soviet Union and Mozambique, and resolve was reaffirmed to continue to develop bilateral ties on the basis of the treaty of friendship and cooperation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Mozambique. The Soviet side stated that it would continue to render Frelimo and the Mozambique people aid and support in their efforts aimed at implementing the program of socioeconomic transformation and at strengthening the independence and defense capability of the country.

Gorbachev, Leaders Give Dinner

LD311530 Moscow TASS in English 1516 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- The CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet today gave a dinner in the Grand Kremlin Palace in honour of Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique.

The Mozambican leader and his wife were accompanied at the dinner by Mozambican party officials and statesmen.

The Soviet side was represented at the dinner by Mikhail Gorbachev and wife, Andrey Gromyko and wife, Nikolay Ryzhkov and wife, Vitaliy Vorotnikov, Eduard Shevardnadze, Sergey Sokolov, Nikolay Talyzin, Anatoliy Dobrynin, vice presidents of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, deputy chairmen of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, ministers of the USSR, the chairmen of the State Committees of the USSR and other officials.

Mikhail Gorbachev and Samora Moises Machel exchanged speeches. The dinner passed in a friendly atmosphere.

Gorbachev Dinner Speech

LD311614 Moscow TASS in English 1608 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- Follows the full text of the speech made by General Secretary of the CPSU Central Committee Mikhail Gorbachev at a dinner in the Grand kremlin Palace given by the CPSU Central Committee and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR in honour of Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique:

Esteemed Comrade Machel, Esteemed Comrade Grasa Machel, Esteemed Mozambican guests, Comrades,

I am happy at the opportunity to welcome in Moscow our big friend President Samora Machel, his esteemed wife and the other Moaambican comrades.

We regard every visit by you to the Soviet Union as testimony of the friendship linking our countries, peoples and parties. Meetings between Soviet and Mozambican leaders serve well the cause of perfecting relations between our countries. I am confident that your present visit as well will be keynoted by this good tradition.

For more than ten years now the Mozambican people is building the mainstays of a new free life under the leadership of the Frelimo party. On scoring victory over the colonialists it fulfilled its sovereign right to choose the road of its social development itself.

It is a matter of immutable principle for the Soviet Union that the emergent countries should shape their destiny themselves. This principle underlines our entire policy. We again clearly stated this at the 27th CPSU Congress. But not everybody in the world of today is prepared to recognise this sacred right of peoples. Moreover there are forces that want to decide for others how they should live. Motivated by their egoistical interests they are doing everything to impede a free choice by peoples, and when such a choice has already been made they try in every way to undermine the states that do not suit them, to reverse their development. Examples of this are on the surface. Look how openly the United States imperialists are interfering in the affairs of Nicaragua, Angola, Libya and some other countries, look at the cynical cruelty with which they act.

The people of Mozambique know all this from their own experience. In treading the chosen path, you have not only to overcome the grave legacy of the colonial past, but also to counter the relentless pressure from imperialism, racism and reaction. They are waging a virtual war against People's Mozambique, sending against it armed gangs of mercenaries and renegades.

Your country feels all the consequences of the crisis situation that has developed in the South of Africa. There is no need to prove that its chief source lies in the aggressive policy of the racist Pretoria regime backed by the United States and its allies. It is high time that the South African rulers be compelled to behave in a civilized way, to stop bloody repressions inside the country and aggressive actions with regard to neighboring countries. But the patrons of the racists are doing everything so as to prevent the world community from adopting effective measures in order to attain this goal.

A fair settlement in southern Africa demands the solution of several vital problems. It calls, above all, for a total termination and inadmission of aggressive forays by the racists against "Frontline" African nations. Secondly, it calls for the immediate solution of the problem of decolonizing Namibia, now in an impasse due to Washington's and Pretoria's policy. Thirdly, it calls for the earliest eradication of apartheid in South Africa, an inhuman system of racial oppression and exploitation, the very existence of which is an international disgrace. We come out in favour of freedom for Namibia and South Africa, so that people of all races live there in peace, equality and accord.

We declared at the 27th CPSU Congress that the Soviet Union favours a political settlement of international crises and is prepared to invigorate the collective search for ways to deblock conflict situations in various parts of the world.

This also holds true for the south of Africa. All that is necessary is to give up the futile attempts to exploit the conflict in that region for intervention in the internal affairs of sovereign African states, and to respect the lawful interests of the peoples who live there. We are prepared to join all the interested parties, those who stand in practice, not in words for freedom, justice and peace in the south of Africa, to get down without delay to drafting appropriate measures. The peoples of the "Frontline" States and the patriotic forces of Namibia and South Africa, led by SWAPO [South West African People's Organization] and the African National Congress, can be confident of the Soviet Union's continuous solidarity and of its support for their just cause.

I want to note specifically the great importance of cooperation between newly-free and socialist countries to a radical improvement in the world political climate and to asserting the just principles of international security.

We greatly value cooperation in that field with People's Mozambique, whose positions on most of the important international problems either are close to or are identical with ours. I would like to express gratitude to the government of your country for supporting the Soviet program for the stage-by-stage elimination of nuclear weapons and other means of mass destruction by the end of this century.

Regrettably, the enemies of peace and disarmament would not take a realistic view of the situation and continue to rely on strength. But it is our firm conviction that the reactionary militarist forces are not destined to destroy the belief of the peoples in the possibility of safeguarding world peace and to subvert their struggle for attaining this lofty goal. The Soviet Union will continue the persevering and painstaking work to translate into practice its comprehensive program for the prevention of thermonuclear catastrophe and for the establishment of a secure peace. And we know that the peoples of the world will be in our side in this noble endeavour.

The Soviet Union suggested to the United States that agreement be reached without delay on ending nuclear tests as the first and very important step to the elimination of nuclear weapons, which President Reagan has said on more than one occasion he would like to achieve. Today there is a realistic opportunity to show good will in practice rather than in words. We expect Washington to take a responsible approach to our proposal.

Dear comrades, we have every reason to say that relations between the Soviet Union and Mozambique, resting on the 1977 treaty of friendship and cooperation, are developing fruitfully in the defined areas. Contacts between the CPSU and the Frelimo party have a special place in the system of these relations. Our parties stood at the sources of friendship between the Soviet and Mozambican peoples. Their commitment to common ideals continues today to cement, one may say, our cooperation, which is serving the supreme interests of both peoples and the cause of peace and social rejuvenation. This will remain true in future as well.

The Soviet Union has been doing and will continue to do what it can to render Mozambique assistance in economic and cultural development, in training national personnel and in strengthening its defenses. Of course, we have large untapped reserves in a number of areas. We should join forces and make an effort to put them to use as soon as possible. We think such an approach businesslike and correct.

Allow me to wish you, Comrade Machel, the party and state leadership of People's Mozambique and the Mozambican people success in defending the achievements of the revolution and in constructive work to build new society, and also peace, happiness and well-being.

I wish the best of health to our dear guest, Comrade Machel, his esteemed wife and all the Mozambican friends present here.

May close contacts, friendship and cooperation between the CPSU and the Frelimo party, between the Soviet Union and People's Mozambique continue to develop and grow stronger from one day to the next.

Report on Machel Speech

LD311723 Moscow TASS in English 1654 GMT 31 Mar 86

[Text] Moscow March 31 TASS -- "People throughout the world demand an end to the threat of mankind's destruction and refuse to live under the threat of nuclear war, under the threat of the use of weapons of mass annihilation", it was stated by the chairman of the Frelimo party, President of the People's Republic of Mozambique Samora Machel at a dinner given in his honor tonight in the Grand Kremlin Palace. "Mankind demands an end to the arms race, demands that outer space and the oceanbed be used for development and not for military purposes", the Mozambican leader said.

"The struggle for peace is the main concern of all people in the world. For Mozambicans who 21 years ago became victims of imperialism's aggressive actions peace is a dream we want to come true. Peaceful life is pressingly needed to direct energy and efforts at economic, social and cultural development, at overcoming poverty, hunger and illiteracy. The time has come when scientific-technical achievements and resources should serve progress and not death and destruction. The entire scientific-technical and financial potential, material resources should be used exclusively in the aims of improving man's life".

"Mozambique considers it important for the easing of international tension for the Soviet-American dialogue, started in Geneva, to continue. We welcome the Soviet Union's constructive propcsals and thinks highly of the Soviet Union's recent decision not to conduct nuclear explosions after March 31 if the United States acts likewise".

"The regime of apartheid is the main cause of violence and war danger in the south of Africa", Samora Machel stressed. "Apartheid is a manifestation of imperialism's fascist and militaristic policy in our region. The colonisation of Namibia, the occupation of a part of Angolan territory, the armed banditism against the People's Republic of Mozambique, support for the puppet groupings in Angola are an external continuation of the terrorist policy pursued by the regime of apartheid against the South African people. But in practice some Western circles, which continue to come out for non-violent solutions of conflicts in our region, do little to destroy apartheid -- the cause of violence", the Mozambican leader said. "The aggressors and the victims are often held equally responsible".

"The independence of Namibia, which must be free just as the other former German colonies, was made dependent early in the 1960s on problems that are in no way related to the attainment of this aim. The very same circles that oppose sanctions against the Republic of South Africa are doing nothing when the ruling regime in South Africa carries out sanctions in practice against Mozambique and other neighbouring countries", Samora Machel stressed.

The president of the People's Republic of Mozambique spoke highly of the development of Soviet-Mozambican cooperation which is based on mutual interests and facilitates the attainment of common ideals in the struggle for peace and socialism.

PRAVDA Profiles Machel

PM011002 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 30 Mar 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report: "On the Visit to the USSR by Samora Moises Machel, chairman of the Frelimo Party and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique"]

[Text] At the invitation of the Soviet leadership Samora Moises Machel, chairman of Frelimo and president of the People's Republic of Mozambique, will be arriving in Moscow today on a friendly, working visit.

S. Machel was born on 29 September 1933 to a peasant family. In 1962 he joined the ranks of the Mozambique Liberation Front (Frelimo). From the beginning of Frelimo's armed struggle against the Portuguese colonizers in 1964 he headed one of the partisan detachments. In 1966 he was made a member of the Frelimo Central Committee and became secretary of the Central Committee's Defense Department. At the Second Frelimo Congress in 1968 he was nominated commander of the partisan army and became a member of the Presidential Front Council. At the end of 1970 he was elected Frelimo president.

Since the day the country proclaimed its independence on 25 June 1975 S. Machel has been president of the People's Republic of Mozambique and head of government. He also holds the posts of chairman of the country's supreme legislative organ -- the People's Assembly -- and chairman of its Permanent Commission, is commander in chief of the Mozambique Armed Forces, and holds the military title of marshal. At the Third Frelimo Congress in February 1977, where the decision was made to turn the front into the vanguard party of Mozambique society, he was elected chairman of Frelimo. In 1982 S. Machel was awarded the title "Hero of the Republic." At the Fourth Frelimo Congress in April 1983 he was reelected as its chairman.

Under his leadership the party adopted a course of building the foundations of a socialist society in Mozambique. This course is being pursued in the conditions of bitter resistance by external reactionary forces striving to turn the country from its chosen course.

In the international arena Mozambique pursues an anti-imperialist, anticolonialist, and antiracist course; works to unite the forces of peace and social progress, end the arms race, and improve the international situation; and is an active member of the OAU and the Nonaligned Movement.

The leader of People's Mozambique has visited the Soviet Union on more than one occasion. S. Machel has been awarded the international Leninist prize "For Strengthening Peace Between Peoples" and also the Order of People's Friendship.

Soviet people fervently welcome the arrival of the important Mozambican guest and express their confidence that the new visit to the USSR by Comrade Samora Moises Machel will help to further develop fruitful cooperation between the Soviet Union and Mozambique.

CUBAN AMBASSADOR MEETS WITH ARKHIPOV

FL252138 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 2034 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and CPSU Central Committee member, today met with Lionel Soto, Cuban ambassador to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet and Cuban officials discussed bilateral matters, especially those related to the Cuban-Soviet inter-government joint commission meeting to be held in Havana in April. The meeting between Arkhipov and Lionel Soto also dealt with the increase in bilateral cooperation in the technical and economic sectors. They also discussed the broad projects agreed upon at the third party congress and at the 27th Congress of the Soviet Union Communist Party.

REPORT ON U.S. ADVANCES TO CHILEAN MILITARY

PY291547 Moscow in Spanish to Chile 2130 GMT 28 Mar 86

[Text] In its last issue, the weekly APSI states that the U.S. Government has reportedly devised a plan to sensitize the Chilean military and make it see the need for a change in the Chilean Government. APSI states that the invitation U.S. Army Chief of Staff General John Wickham extended to Chilean Army Deputy Chief of Staff General Santiago Sinclair was reportedly made in keeping with this plan. The invitation was turned down by Sinclair, who claimed numerous institutional obligations as the reason for not traveling to the United States.

APSI states that an official U.S. source has revealed that the invitation was a type of test [preceding word in English]. If Sinclair did not accept, it would mean that Pinochet had decided to close his ranks and prevent (?contacts with) the Chilean military. Should any such invitation be accepted, it would mean that Pinochet no longer has the power to prevent the contacts. [Words indistinct] continues playing both sides the U.S. official source stated, as correctly mentioned by the magazine APSI.

When one talks about contacts, it is understood that one refers to the official British contacts because the British are faithful to the U.S. secret services. [sentence as heard] In turn, referring to the problems seen within the Chilean Armed Forces which, thus far, have been the regime's backbone, the periodical FORTIN MAPOCHO notes in one of its most recent issues that disquiet, dissatisfaction, lack of control, informal meetings, tension, and [word indistinct] prevail in the barracks.

BRIEFS

LATIN AMERICAN TRADE -- Moscow March 26 TASS -- The Soviet Union's trade with most Latin American countries has grown noticeably in 1985 as compared with the previous year. A TASS correspondent learned at the USSR Ministry of Foreign Trade that the USSR's total trade turnover with countries of that region amounted to 10.2 billion roubles in 1985, or a billion roubles more than in 1984. Soviet purchases in Latin America grew rapidly and exceeded 5.9 billion roubles. Soviet export to the countries of the region in 1985 amounted to about 4.3 billion roubles. [Text] [Moscow TASS in English 1313 GMT 27 Mar 86 LD]